

**WATERLOO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING – September 20, 2016– 4:30 P.M.
First Floor Conference Room, City Hall**

Ottesen called the regular meeting of the City of Waterloo Historic Preservation Commission meeting to order at 4:38 p.m.

Commission Members in attendance were: Ottesen, Stevens, Jensen, and Orlando

Commission Member(s) absent were: Price and Linda

Others Present: Pat Morrissey City Council representative, Adrienne Miller and John Dornoff – Planning Staff

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Jensen, seconded by Orlando to approve the agenda of the September 20th, 2016 regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Orlando seconded by Stevens to approve the minutes of the August 23rd, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

Hearings

Request by Rupert Cooper for a Certificate of Appropriateness to construct a 5 ft. tall cedar fence in the backyard of 315 Prospect.

Dornoff gave staff report explaining the request.

Motion made by Stevens, seconded by Jensen to approve the request as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

Morrissey asked if it was common for people not to show up for a hearing. Ottesen said it was about 50/50. Morrissey then asked what happens if they are denied their request but not present and Ottesen commented that it will usually be tabled until the next meeting or if it is denied the applicant can appeal the decision.

Reports

1. Main Street

Ottesen noted that an open house will be held at the Hotel President on September 22nd, 2016. Next month on October 6th, 2016 will be the Tour de Loo' which will be held between 5:30 and 10:00pm. On October 20th, 2016 Main Street Waterloo will be holding their 20th Anniversary Luncheon at the Jefferson Street Garage starting at noon. November 22nd will be Winterloo Small Business Saturday.

2. Silos and Smokestacks

No Report.

3. Grout Museum

Morrissey noted that he currently serves on the Grout Museum Board and will talk to them at the September 21st, 2016 board meeting about the HPC and see if they have any updates. Miller noted to add Billy to the email list.

4. Rath Administration Update

No Report.

Discussion Items/Possible Action Items

1. Dubuque Officials Meeting

Miller noted that she and Dornoff discussed the meeting with Noel Anderson today. Anderson noted that the commission would need to have a detailed plan of what it wants to do with any funding it should receive. Also due to city council workshops going on at the same time the Molenhoff room may not be a valuable option and should look at other places. Anderson suggested maybe the Library or someplace like that.

Orlando discussed how we need to engage our community better.

Morrissey said the Molenhoff room can be closed off and left to check on its availability but the person had already left. Ottesen noted that we need to get this set up right away and also said that he would have to miss the first hour of the meeting.

Orlando and Stevens agreed that they would meet at wherever the meeting was being held at 1:00pm.

Stevens stated that she wants them to see the Walnut/Triangle area.

Morrissey asked about using a van for the tour and Miller stated that either she or Dornoff will have to probably drive the van in that case.

Orlando wanted to know what we want them to tell us and noted that they will have a Power Point presentation. The question then turned to who we should invite to the presentation:

Orlando: Top 3 friends, Chamber of Commerce, Sue Peterson, Dr. Chen from UNI

Ottesen: Others from Main Street

Morrissey: Will discuss with Grout, Charles Pearson, Cedar Valley Historical Society

Stevens: African-American Museum

Ottesen commented that tourism can be created by Historic Preservation. We need to find out how they created their plan and what to look out for. Stevens suggested we find out how we can better connect with the community.

Ottesen mentioned that David Dee's from JSA offered meals and JSA owns several downtown properties so they could be an important contact.

2. 519 E 3rd Street/ Walnut District

Morrissey stated that there will be a meeting with the mayor at 9:00am and should be able to move forward.

3. City owned properties/Demo List

Miller noted she did not receive an update from Chris Western this month as he is currently incapacitated due to an accident. It was noted by Morrissey that 71 Franklin was in the demo list.

4. Preserve Iowa Summit

Stevens that there was a lot going on in the state and it was exciting. However, she noted that Blackhawk County has no African-American or Civil Rights Historical sites despite having 44 sites on the National Register of Historic Places. 9 other Iowa counties do have some type of site. In addition work is progressing on the Civil Rights Trail that is a national initiative that currently has money available for projects. Someone is going to get the money it might as well be Waterloo.

Jensen asked if this was separate or part of the National Register of Historic Places and Stevens commented that it was part of the National Parks and there is so much potential.

Morrissey asked if the conference gave out a process for obtaining the funding to which Stevens replied that no but it is being worked on.

Orlando asked where the funding is which Stevens responded the National Parks. Stevens said that she would dig up history. Need to kick it in for Waterloo since cities such as Davenport are doing it. Stevens showed a brochure from that city which Dornoff said he would scan and have it available.

Jensen asked what other cities are doing a trail to which Stevens replied to look at the National Park website for information.

Stevens pointed out that there is \$15 million available for civil rights projects.

Ottesen asked if their power points and other presentation materials were available but the answer was no. Many conferences now post those on line and it makes it nice to go back and research the information.

5. Funding

Miller noted that when talking to Noel Anderson that Anderson stated that funding is a major thing and if they are going to be required to go to trainings there needs to be the funding mechanism to allow for it.

Ottesen noted that the city needs to keep the Certified Local Government (CLG).

Morrissey said that he was going to do everything he could possibly do in his position to get funding for the commission.

Ottesen said that in the past the commission hasn't asked for money and Miller noted that Complete Streets has asked for money but not received any yet.

Morrissey said that the city needs to spend money to grow and there needs to be a min shift within the city. Who is out there to take care of historic preservation besides the commission? The commission needs to build relationships with the business community.

Stevens stated that if you see the relevance of downtown Waterloo, you need the whole community to be nice, ask those working on downtown to look at the rest of the city.

Ottesen noted that Main Street has issues, need to make sure things are done right. There needs to be private-public partnerships, more districts, more commissioners.

Orlando noted that Dubuque got a loan from a bank but then was the recipients of a grant so they never actually used the money from the loan fund. Partnerships need to be set up.

6. Discussion

None

Adjournment

Ottesen adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Dornoff
Planner I