

**WATERLOO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING – October 17, 2017– 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 4:45 p.m.

Commission Members in attendance were: Ottesen, Orlando, Jaacks, Price, Jenson and Miller.

Commission Member(s) absent were: Stevens.

Others Present: Pat Morrissey – City Council Representative and John Dornoff – Planning Staff

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Jaacks, seconded by Jenson to approve the agenda of the October 17, 2017 regular meeting amending to add Civil Rights Grant under hearings. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Orlando seconded by Price to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2017 regular meeting with an amendment showing Morrissey as present at last meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Hearings

No Hearings

Reports

1. Main Street

Ottesen reported that the Tour D’Loo was successful and that the KWWL building opened at 6:45pm for the event and had a steady flow of people during the evening.

2. Silos and Smokestacks.

No Report

3. Grout Museum

No Report

4. Rath Administration Update

Dornoff reported that there could be a hearing in December to take back the property via 657A so that other interested developers can make proposals for the building.

5. Walnut Survey

Dornoff reported that he had email conversations with Camilla Deiber who will be heading the Walnut project for Louis Berger. There are questions whether the district will qualify under its architectural integrity for listing however it should be able to be nominated for cultural and historical aspects of the neighborhood and that both he and Louis Berger will be working with the SHPO office to ensure a good nomination.

6. Highland

Dornoff noted that he added a monthly report for Highland so that Miller can give updates on what is happening in the neighborhood. Miller reported that he has been unable to talk to the president of the neighborhood association recently because she has been busy and it appears that the realtor's association is a non-entity that is not willing to discuss the neighborhood.

Dornoff noted that he had a conversation with the purchasers with the RA Rath house going over the historic district and sending the buyers the design guidelines.

Discussion Items/Possible Actin Items

1. Design Guidelines

As noted in the last meeting the Design Guidelines that were developed in 2012 were never approved by the city council. The commission will need to go through the new Secretary of the Interior's standards and decide how they want to proceed.

Morrissey asked about other types of protections for areas such as Church Row where so many of the homes are owned by absentee landlords. Ottesen noted that the new ordinance that was passed back in 2011 does allow for preservation districts.

Morrissey suggested passing rules so that homes could not have their features removed without coming to the commission or neighborhood board and maybe do that without going to city council. Dornoff suggested that without the force of law of passing an ordinance, that there would be nothing to back up if someone ignores the process. Jaacks and Jenson talked about protective covenants and setting up an HOA but that could also be complicated. However, that will allow the restrictions to be put on the deed of the home so that homeowners would know about it when they purchase a home.

2. Civil Rights Grant

Dornoff noted that the Civil Rights grant was sent off on October 6, 2017 after he put an extended amount of time into the grant.

The grant included \$50, 000 for a survey of the Smokey Row area and other sites that have significance with civil rights in the city. The maximum allowed for surveys was \$50,000 so that is why that number was selected. Dornoff also noted that there was request for signage, promotional materials, and a historical trail included in the other part of the grant that included funds for those types of projects.

3. Most Endangered Buildings List 2018

Dornoff noted that he had sent out a email to the commissioners earlier in the day indicating that nominations are open for most endangered building in Iowa for 2018. Dornoff once again suggested that St. Mary's should be put in for nomination. Will be put on next month's agenda for a decision.

4. City Owned Properties/Demo List

Dornoff noted that the Castel apartments will be coming down soon but has been complicated due to the fires and the fact that the apartments were better built than was first thought. Sad to be losing a unique “A” rated structure but there are also emotions when it comes to the building due to a murder that occurred at the building. There is a similar but smaller structure on West 3rd.

5. CIP

Dornoff stated that the deadline for the CIP is going to be before the next meeting. What should be included in the request? Members commented that they have applied for CIP funds before and nothing was ever approved.

The gateways, plaques and other amenities for the Highland neighborhood were talked about. Jenson and Morrissey mentioned the Dunsmore house and funding for restoration of that building should be looked at. Funding for surveys of both Church Row and Triangle should be included along with funding for a revolving loan program.

List of projects to include in CIP:

Highland amenities and promotional brochure
Restoration of the Dunsmore House and other structures of importance
Surveys of Church Row and Triangle
Revolving Loan Fund

Morrissey felt that the commission should ask for a minimum of \$900,000 noting that Complete Streets asked for \$220,000 and received \$20,000.

Motion made by Jenson seconded by Price for Dornoff to come up with cost estimates for projects and present them for CIP consideration with an email vote of commissioners for final approval. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Other Discussion

Dornoff showed a framed certificate from the National Parks Service commemorating 50 years of the Certified Local Government program and Waterloo being a part of the program.

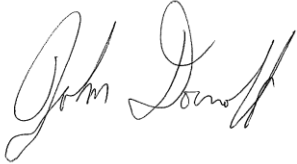
Dornoff also said that he is in the process of going through all the survey forms to put them back into order and to create an electronic database of the information in addition to removing the sheets of buildings that have bulldozed.

Adjournment

Ottesen adjourned the meeting at 5:28 p.m.

A public presentation was held at the Waterloo Public Library from 6:30 to 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Dornoff".

John Dornoff
Planner I