

**WATERLOO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING – October 21, 2014– 4:30 P.M.
2nd Floor Police Library, City Hall**

Ottesen called the regular meeting of the City of Waterloo Historic Preservation Commission meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Commission Members in attendance were: Price, Cass, Stevens, George, Ottesen and Andera.

Commission Member(s) absent were: Linda.

Others Present: Adrienne Miller- Staff to the Commission, 1 Member of the public.

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by George, seconded by Cass to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Price seconded by George to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2014 Regular Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Hearings

No Request Submitted

Reports

1. Main Street

Ottesen indicated that the Tour De Loo was successful. Twelve places were featured and over 300 tickets were sold. There will also be a Halloween event coming up downtown.

2. Silos and Smokestacks

No report.

3. Grout Museum

No report.

4. Rath Administration Update

Andera indicated that the contractor is still working on the building and they are now discovering more asbestos between the walls.

Discussion Items/Possible Action Items

1. 515 & 519 E 3rd Street:

Miller explained that the home at 519 E 3rd Street is owned by the City of Waterloo and is currently on the list to be demolished. Miller indicated that House of Hope is planning on constructing an additional housing at the location of both homes. The house at 519 E 3rd Street was brought before the Building and Grounds Committee for approval before the demolition is

heard by the City Council. The Building and Grounds Committee tabled the request for four weeks with concerns of the homes having historical value.

David Deeds indicated that he has been in discussion with a historical consultant and he believes it has been indicated that there is potential for a historical district in this area. Cass questioned what downsides are there to designating a new historical district. Deeds stated that for a State and Federal designation there are more restrictive regulations when using tax credits. When having a local district it becomes even more restrictive due to local ordinances and the Historic Preservation Commission Guidelines.

Deeds indicated that an area will receive federal designations then be recognized at the local level. Deeds indicated that he believes the first thing that needs to happen is a new location for House of Hope needs to be established. Secondly there needs to be a group, whether citizens or the city, that comes together and wants to rehabilitate the homes. Lastly there needs to be a district established. Establishing a district will enable the developers of the homes to utilize federal funds to assist with the rehabilitation of the homes.

Ottesen questioned what the Commission could do to assist with the situation. Miller indicated that the Commission could send a letter to the Mayor and City Council indicating their stance on the demolition of these two homes. Ottesen stated that the letter should mention a moratorium for demolitions in the Walnut street area, requested funding for the designation of the area and also why they would like this area to be looked at as a potential historical district.

Motion made by Stevens seconded by Price to approve a letter to be sent to City Council and the Mayor with a recommendation from the Historic Preservation Commission. Motion carried 5-0 with Andera abstaining.

2. Designation of New District- Neighborhood Associations:

This item was discussed with item #1

3. Preserve Iowa Summit August 21st- 23rd

Stevens indicated that she had many notes and worksheets from the conference that she will submit to Adrienne to disperse to the Commission and discussion at the next meeting.

Adjournment

Ottesen adjourned the meeting at 5:50.

Respectfully submitted,



Adrienne Miller,
Associate Planner