

**WATERLOO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING – December 13, 2016– 4:30 P.M.
Council Chambers, City Hall**

Ottesen called the regular meeting of the City of Waterloo Historic Preservation Commission meeting to order at 4:40 p.m.

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

Commission Member(s) absent were: Linda and Price.

Others Present: Pat Morrissey City Council representative, Jerome Amos City Council, and John Dornoff – Planning Staff

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Jensen, seconded by Orlando to approve the agenda of the November 15, 2016 regular meeting with an amendment to talk about the Survey. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Orlando seconded by Jaacks to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2016 with amendments. Motion carried unanimously.

Hearings

No Hearings

Reports

1. Main Street

Now that Winter Wonderloo is over, there is nothing planned for the district until February or March except for taking down Christmas decorations after the holidays.

2. Silos and Smokestacks.

No Report from Silos and Smokestacks

3. Grout Museum

Morrissey reported that tomorrow (December 14th) that the Grout Museum will be reviewing and voting on their strategic plan. They are also encouraging donations since there is a perception that the Grout doesn't need donations anymore because of other funding but they still do.

4. Rath Administration Update

The state has concerns about the developer of the project; Tim Andera and Noel Anderson hope to have more information by next month.

5. Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church

Dornoff reported that he sent of the application to have the Mt. Moriah church nominated as most endangered property for 2017. Dornoff felt that the church would have a good chance of making the list for this year on the state level although there is little chance of it getting onto the national list.

Discussion Items/Possible Actin Items

1. Chairperson/Vice Chairperson

It was moved by Orlando, seconded by Jenson to nominate Ed Ottesen to continue serving as Chairperson of the Historic Preservation Commission for 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Stevens, seconded by Jenson to nominate Katie Orlando as Vice-Chairperson for the Historic Preservation Commission for 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

2. CLG Annual Report

Every year the city has to send in a report to the State Historic Offices to keep their Certified Local Government status. Dornoff gave paperwork for Jenson and Jaacks to fill out as new members of the commission but otherwise the report is looking good.

3. Annual Awards Banquet

Need to make sure public officials are invited to the Awards Banquet this year as the mayor and others were not last year.

Discussion then turned to ideas for the banquet with a general date of May 4th. Orlando talked about a new position that has been created that is joint with Big Brothers and the school district that may be able to help us. One idea to get young people involved in historic preservation would be to have a photography contest and announce winners at the banquet. Can come up with guidelines by January meeting and be able to give them to teachers by February 1st.

The banquet has been at the Boathouse the last couple of years but if we do the photography contest would the Library or the Center for the Arts be a more appropriate place to stage it?

4. Walnut District, Funding, and Other Discussion

JSA has asked the city to work on doing a survey on the Walnut District to preparation to apply for National Register status. Stevens noted that the Walnut area where many of the professional African-American population lived and worked.

There is also a new Walnut Neighborhood Association and some of their people may be in favor of creating the historic district.

JSA has been negotiating to purchase several of the troubled properties in the area including 519 E 3rd. If an agreement cannot be worked out with JSA several buildings will most likely see the bulldozer and that will be the end of any Walnut Historic District.

Orlando and Ottesen met with the Community Foundation today and one of their priority areas for funding is now historic preservation. They having a funding grant opportunity coming up early in 2017 and the Walnut District project would be an excellent pilot to doing a survey of the entire city, which the Community Foundation would like to see. They are looking to be in an advocate roll and looking to get the commission additional donations. The commission would need to find a 501(c)3 organization to partner with on the project.

Amos said the commission needs to go to the mayor and work with other members of the city council that could be favorable to the commission such as Tom Powers. Amos said that historic preservation has not been on his radar but it is now after having talks with Charles Pearson it is.

Another idea floated was having an informational session with developers about historic tax credits. Dornoff can contact Paula Mohr about potential speakers.

Motion made by Orland, seconded by Stevens to apply for Community Foundation Grant. Motion passed unanimously.

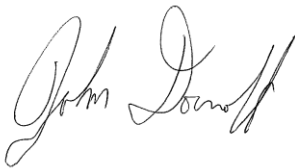
Over the next month, the commission will work with contacting organizations such as the Walnut Neighborhood Association, Church Row Historic Neighborhood Association, Churches in the Triangle area, and the Grout Museum.

In the meeting with Mayor Hart and Noel Anderson, it was suggested that the Historic Commission create an information-filled website where people can find out about historic districts and look up ordinances, which will fit into the cities upcoming revamped website. Dornoff mentioned that no decision has been made about a Facebook page as the mayor and staff are considering issues of ownership and postings including the fear of inappropriate postings.

Adjournment

Ottesen adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Dornoff". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

John Dornoff
Planner I