

**WATERLOO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING – DECEMBER 20TH – 12:00 P.M.
MOLLENHOFF CONFERENCE ROOM – CITY HALL**

Chairperson Ottesen called the regular meeting of the City of Waterloo Historic Preservation Commission meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

Those in attendance were Anderson, Etheredge, Morgan, Olsson, Ottesen and Quirk. Also present were staff members, Don Temeyer, Tim Andera and Chris Western.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Morgan and seconded by Quirk to approve the minutes from the November 28th, 2006 regular meeting with the amendment to make the correction that Ottesen did not make the motion to approve the location of the Preserve America sign due to him being the Chairperson. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Etheredge and seconded by Olsson to approve the agenda as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

Main Street

Etheredge gave the Main Street report noting there were many sign reviews at the last Main Street meeting. Etheredge noted the sign reviews were for Hawkeye Bail Bonds, Bank Iowa and the Dan Gable Museum, with the Design Review Board approving the Bank Iowa and Dan Gable signs. Etheredge noted that the Hawkeye Bail Bonds sign was not approved due to the sign being a backlit sign on a historical building. Etheredge also noted that the Elks Club would be doing a full window replacement soon on its building at East Park and Mulberry Street.

Silos and Smokestacks

No report this month.

Grout Museum

Etheredge noted currently the Grout is selecting a contractor for the project and the bids presented were lower than expected.

Public Hearings

Tallgrass Historians Historical/Architectural Study, Deere & Co, 400 Westfield Avenue

Temeyer noted that SHPO concurred with the report completed by Tallgrass Historians that 34 of the 36 buildings on the John Deere Westfield site no longer hold any historical or architectural significance. Temeyer noted that currently John Deere is restructuring

their manufacturing process from the multi-level buildings to single level buildings. Temeyer also noted that it is planned to save two of the former manufacturing buildings and have an agricultural museum established to showcase the history of the Waterloo Boy as well as the beginning of John Deere in the City, and where it is today. Olsson questioned what exactly the Commission would be voting on. Andera noted that the Commission is voting on whether they concur with the report and Jan Nash's findings or if they do not agree with the report. Etheredge and Ottesen both noted they are unable to vote on the project due to their architectural firms being involved with the project. Morgan questioned that the reason the buildings are coming down are because Commercial Street is being extended to the west, or that new buildings are going to be built in place of the older buildings. Temeyer noted that the reason the buildings are being demolished is due to both of those concerns. Temeyer also noted that a booklet will be created of the site showing pictures and sketches of the former buildings as well as the manufacturing processes that occurred at the former site due to SHPO recordation requirements.

Motion made by Olsson and seconded by Anderson to approve and concur with the plan submitted by Tallgrass Historians for the demolition of 34 buildings located at John Deere & Company, 400 Westfield Avenue. Motion carried 3-1 with Anderson, Olsson and Quirk voting in favor with Morgan voting against and with Etheredge and Ottesen abstaining due to a conflict of interest.

Discussion Items

Iowa 2006 Certified Local Government (CLG) Historical Annual Report

Andera noted that the Iowa 2006 CLG report is an annual report submitted to the State Historical Society of Iowa every year detailing projects, programs, ceremonies, etc. conducted by or helped out by with members of Waterloo's Historical Preservation Commission. Ottesen noted that the 2006 Annual Awards Ceremony should be noted in the annual report. It was also noted that the new Historical Comprehensive Plan should be included in the report as well. Commission members also noted that a request to designate the Newton Jeweler's building was submitted during 2006, an Old House Tour was held in August and the Commission helped plan some of the events and festivities for the Tour De Loo Downtown showcase, as well as some Commission members are actively involved on the Main Street Design Review Board.

National Trust for Historic Preservation Grants, 2007

Andera noted that there are two grants that are available from the National Trust, one being the Johanna Favrot Fund, which would focus on restoring an authentic sense of place and the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund, which works to restore historic interiors. Commission members did not know of any historic interiors that could possibly be restored with a grant from the Wood Fund. Olsson noted that recently in the beginning of the year that a process had started with Cleve Miller's daughter-in-law to identify properties that Miller had designed and begin creating a brochure for a driving or walking tour of those properties as well as a brochure for Highland. Morgan noted that Sue Pearson has already started to compile and create a brochure for the Highland

Neighborhood, but the Commission has not see it yet. Olsson noted that being that there is already more information on the Highland District, it would make more sense to start with a brochure for that neighborhood.

Discuss moving monthly meeting date to 3rd Tuesday of the Month

Andera noted that recently in the past there have been conflicts with other Staff members not being able to make the monthly Historical Preservation meeting on the fourth Tuesday of the month due to conflicts with other City meetings such as the Board of Adjustment and Vandewalle and Associates being in town for the Downtown plan. Morgan noted that if the meeting time is changed, it should be held at 5:30 p.m. to allow Newton time to close down her store and get to the meeting. Andera noted that he would get the meeting time and room ready at the library for the monthly meeting and begin holding the meeting on the third Tuesday starting in January.

Kingbard Walking Tour

Andera noted that he was able to locate a Kingbard Walking Tour brochure that was recently created by a previous intern. Etheredge noted that the Commission would have to contact participants and see if they are still willing to take part in the tour this year. Etheredge noted that she would like to see the brochure designed as a tri-fold type.

Adjournment

Hearing no further discussion chairperson Ottesen adjourned the meeting at 12:46 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Andera
Associate Planner
Staff to the Commission