

**WATERLOO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING – December 18, 2018– 4:30 P.M.  
Mollenhoff Conference Room, City Hall**

Ottesen called the regular meeting of the City of Waterloo Historic Preservation Commission to order at 4:34 p.m.

Commission Members in attendance were: Ottesen, Stevens, Morehouse, and Jenson.

Commission Member(s) absent were: Miller, Price, and Jaacks

Others Present: Rebecca Lawin McCarley-SPARK Consulting, EJ Gallagher – Grout Museum Liaison, Pat Morrissey – City Council Representative, Noel Anderson, Community Planning and Development Director, John Dornoff – Planning Staff, and Charles Pearson.

**Approval of Agenda**

*Motion was made by Stevens, seconded by Jenson to approve the agenda of the December 18, 2018 regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.*

**Approval of Minutes**

*Motion was made by Jenson, seconded by Stevens to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2018 meeting. Motions carried unanimously.*

**Hearings**

**No Hearings**

**Presentation by Charles Pearson**

Pearson passed out business cards and a brochure regarding his business as a historic consultant.

Pearson said that the Commission was “disenfranchised” in 2014, and that the Commission was to blame that the African-American museum could not restore the Dunsmore House and the Commission should personally apologize to the city because of its failings.

Pearson stated that former Mayor Buck Clark authorized him to create a African-American preservation plan that he worked on with Ms. Scott. Pearson said that the Historic Commission has ignored his plan and its own Historic Preservation Plan which was created in 2006.

Pearson said that Dr. Chen of University of Iowa offered assistance but the Commission did nothing.

Pearson also said that at the Preservation Iowa conference there was a session discussing an African-American grant and that no one from Waterloo was present at the session therefore no one would know how to fill out the grant.

Pearson said that the Commission hasn’t done any of its volunteer hours for the Smokey Row survey. He said that Rebecca Sparks from the consulting firm working on the Smokey Row

survey has called him because the Commission doesn't give her any information. Rebecca McCarley corrected him on her name.

Pearson stated that if the Commission doesn't do something in two weeks he is going contact the Federal Government and have the commission brought up on charges. He also stated that as of January 1<sup>st</sup> he is a board member of Preservation Iowa and he will do everything in his power to make sure Waterloo never gets another grant.

### **Reports**

#### **1. Main Street**

Main Street Design Council is currently going over Design Guidelines for the district. The new council chairperson is Ed Ottesen.

#### **2. Silos and Smokestacks.**

No Report

#### **3. Grout Museum**

The Grout Museum board will be meeting on December 19<sup>th</sup>.

#### **4. Building Update**

Waterloo Public Schools voted to put the house on Kimball Street that is a "A" rated structure up for sale to someone who will move it. The City of Waterloo has also offered to provide a lot for a person that will be willing to move the house; however they will need to contact movers to find out the cost.

The city did have interest in the Rath building and the potential developers stated that they will let the city know when it will be more convenient for them to attempt the project.

#### **5. Project Update**

Dornoff stated that the Walnut National Register Nomination is going to be 8 months behind but will go to the State Historical Nomination Committee in June.

The consultant for the Smokey Row survey was present and would be holding a meeting for volunteers after this meeting.

The consultants for the Civil Rights grant project are doing preliminary research.

#### **6. Highland**

No report.

### **Discussion Items/Possible Actin Items**

#### **1. Library Presentation**

Due to time constraints, discussion will move to next month.

**2. School Art Project**

Stevens who is heading the project this year wanted clarification that Middle Schools would be included to which Dornoff answered yes.

**3. Most Endangered Building List 2019**

Continue looking for potential buildings for this year's list.

**4. Design Guidelines**

Dornoff plans to send the Design Guidelines to City Council on January 22<sup>nd</sup> with the CLG Annual Report.

**5. City of Waterloo Most Endangered Properties List for 2019**

The city is hoping to demolish 14 buildings in 2019 but only the Castle Apartments are considered important.

**6. Letter to "A" Property Owners**

Dornoff said that while going through old paperwork he came across a project to send letters to the owners of "A" properties, letting property owners know of the status and telling them the commission is available to assist them. Dornoff will present a preliminary draft next month.

**7. Publications and Maps**

Dornoff distributed copies of the FAQ's for historic neighborhoods that is designed to give homeowners a better understanding of the process when they own a historic home. It is proposed that these will be published on the historic website and possibly on the Highland Neighborhood's website.

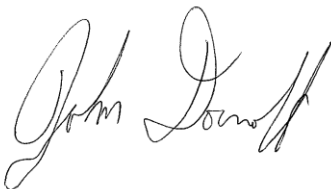
**8. Website Update**

Dornoff said that he has a list of all award winners since the first awards banquet in 2005. Within the next month pictures of the award winners will be posted on the Commission's website.

**Adjournment**

*Ottesen adjourned the meeting at 5:24 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,



John Dornoff  
Planner I