

Waverly Historic Preservation Commission Minutes

The Thursday, September 25, 2014, meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm at the Waverly Public Library Conference Room.

Commissioners present: Jim Hundley, Tom Hicks, Karen Lehmann, Deborah Ackerson and Mary Meyer

Commissioners absent: Pete Newell and Don Meyer

Council present: None

City liaison: Sarah Meyer-Reyerson

Visitors present: Duane Liddle

Visitor Comments

Duane Liddle expressed his concern for the future of the Farmers' Exchange building south of the fire station and suggested it could become part of an historic corridor that includes the railroad depot, fire department museum, the Sturdevant House and Harlington Cemetery. The commission will gather information, including the history of the building, the City's plans for it, and the views of our council liaison, and then decide what action to take.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the August 28, 2014, meeting were approved.

Regular Business

1. ***Progress Report on the SW Historic District Survey***

No report was received from Marlys Svendsen.

2. ***Signage for the Waverly Municipal Hydroelectric Powerhouse and the Old Fourth Ward SE Historic District***

No report on the signage. The question was raised about whether we have permission from the City or Waverly Light and Power to mount a plaque on the wall of the powerhouse.

3. ***Signage for the historic districts***

Ackerson has surveyed the Old Fourth Ward historic district and believes twelve street sign toppers at intersections and three or four signs at the entrances to the district would be appropriate. Lehmann will email photos, sign descriptions and prices to help the commission decide on the style.

The state contact for regulations governing signage in the Downtown Historic District is David Ramirez who handles right-of-way improvement permits.

4. ***Possible signage for the historic burr oak tree in front of the Civic Center***

An historic marker has been proposed for the tree with the suggestion that the HPC pay for it. Meyer-Reyerson reported that the tree needs repairs to stabilize it. She will gather more details for further discussion.

5. ***Change of date for the next HPC meeting***

Because the Library will be closed on October 23, 2014, it was proposed that the next meeting be moved to Thursday, October 30, 2014.

6. ***Display of the certificates for the historic districts***

Meyer-Reyerson will ask if the certificates could be displayed at the Civic Center.

7. **Possible formation of a Bremer County historic preservation group**

The HPC will discuss forming such a group with Wes Gade and also research the process for obtaining state designation.

8. **Map of the historic districts**

The suggestion was made to print a map showing the outlines of the original city limits, the current city limits and the boundaries of the historic districts. More discussion will follow.

9. **Preservation Conference in Iowa City**

A conference called "Sustainability Through Historic Salvage" will be sponsored by the University of Iowa on Saturday, November 8, 2014, from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. More details are available at www.preservationiowa.org.

Council Report

No council report.

Staff Report

Meyer-Reyerson reported that Emily Neuendorf has left her position as director at the Chamber of Commerce, and also that the proposed changes to the ordinance governing the HPC will be presented to the City Council on Monday, October 6, 2014.

Chairperson's Report

No chairperson's report.

A combined meeting for November and December will be held **Thursday, December 4, 2014, at 6:00 pm** at the Waverly Public Library Conference Room.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Meyer, Secretary