

Waverly Historic Preservation Commission Minutes

The Monday, September 28, 2020, Zoom meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Chair Karen Lehmann. Commissioners present: Kris Brunkhorst, Glenn Fenneman, Karen Lehmann, Don Meyer, Mary Meyer and Darius Robinson

Commissioners absent: None

Council present: Brian Birgen

City liaison present: Isaac Pezley

Visitors present: Brennan Dolan, Cultural Resources Manager/Archaeologist with the DOT; Mayor Adam Hoffman; Council Members Rod Drenkow, Kris Glaser, Ann Rathe and Matthew Schneider; City Administrator James Bronner; Leisure Services Director Garret Riordan; City Attorney Bill Werger; Justin Schedtler and Angie Brunssen.

Adoption of the Agenda

Don Meyer moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by Fenneman, motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

Brunkhorst moved to adopt the minutes of August 24, 2020, seconded by Fenneman, motion passed with minor changes to the minutes.

Visitor Comments

See Item 2 under Regular Business.

Regular Business

1. *Appointment of a new Commissioner*

Mary Ventullo has resigned; a new commissioner will be appointed soon.

2. *Discussion of the memorialization of the Green Bridge*

Brennan Dolan attended the meeting to present ideas for memorializing the bridge and to answer questions about possible funding sources for preserving one of its spans. He described other bridge preservation projects in the state (at Anamosa in Jones county and the bridges of Madison county), and the economic and tourism benefits that can derive when a community-based resource like a bridge becomes a destination venue. The bridge might become part of a trail system, or it might become the backdrop of performance events, community festivals and weddings. Lighting would increase its possible uses.

If the Council envisions the bridge as a worthy preservation project, funding is available. Brennan provided information about Historical Resource Development Program grants that require a 50% match from the City; the application deadline is June and the grants are awarded in July. He suggested that the Green Bridge would likely qualify since the grant committee likes to award funds to a variety of projects and they don't receive many requests for funding of bridge rehabilitations. He also noted that our bridge is already listed on the National Register which would be a benefit in applying for grants. It is unclear if the bridge span would need to be relocated over water to keep that listing.

Before submitting any grant applications, the following information would be needed:

- A new location for the span
- The total cost of moving the span and building the structures necessary to support it
- The amount of funding the City would be willing to provide

Once this information is known, it would also be possible to raise additional funds from private donations, or to store a section of the bridge for future use. Brennan also suggested that officials in Jones and Madison counties would be willing to provide input if we pursue this project.

Commissioners are invited to attend the next Council meeting when the memorialization of the bridge will be discussed further. That date will likely be October 5.

3. ***Pending Waverly Historic Register and Historic Preservation Awards***

The formal presentation of the Historic Register award to Crosspoint Church will occur in May 2021 during Historic Preservation month; an article about the award has already appeared in the Waverly newspaper and has been added to the HPC website. Lehmann noted that the price for the plaque that was awarded to the Baptist Church was \$588. The Commission must decide if it wishes to present plaques in the future and will need to know if the City would help defray the cost from the Hotel/Motel Tax fund as it has in the past.

Don Meyer moved and Robinson seconded a motion to present the Preservation Award to Scott and Linda Kollenkark for their home at 415 4th Ave SW; the motion passed. A newspaper article will describe the award; the formal presentation of the certificate will occur in May 2021.

At the request of City Administrator James Bronner, the HPC will consider 4Queens for a possible award.

4. ***Boost Co. follow-up actions***

Fenneman, Robinson and Brunkhorst will meet to discuss the logistics of providing table tents to Waverly restaurants; Mary Meyer will be responsible for the historic information.

Pezley will inquire about the designer of the City logo and provide the HPC with the information for possible help in designing the new HPC logo.

5. ***Potential future preservation projects***

Pezley advised that the Commission may have its own email address but asked that it wait until the City updates its email system before pursuing it.

He will also provide an update at the next meeting about the Bremer County Historical Society's plans regarding a memorial for the racehorse Abe Downing.

Possible forum topics for National Preservation Month in May 2021:

- What preservation means to the community
- Historic landmarks that Waverly is proud of

6. ***CAMP training opportunity***

The deadline has passed to submit an application to host a 2021 CAMP virtual training workshop offered by the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions. No further action will be taken.

Discussion of holding our meetings on a different night

The balance of the items on the agenda and the reports were not discussed so that our meeting would not conflict with the beginning of the Council's Zoom meeting. Lehmann will send a poll to the Commissioners to determine if we could meet on another night to avoid this conflict. She will also include a spreadsheet of commissioner contact information.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for **Monday, October 26, 2020**, at **5:30** pm.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Meyer, Acting Secretary

Rotation of HPC Acting Secretary: October – Fenneman, November – Robinson, December – TBD.