

## Meeting Minutes for June 22, 2020

### Waverly Historic Preservation Commission

The Waverly Historic Preservation Commission met virtually on Monday, June 22, 2020, at 5:15 pm using the Zoom platform.

Commissioners present: Chair Karen Lehmann, Vice Chair Kris Brunkhorst, Commissioners Glenn Fenneman, Mary Meyer, Linda Hovden and Don Meyer

Commissioner absent: Pete Newell

City Council Liaison present: Brian Birgen

City Staff Representative present: Isaac Pezley

1. **Call to order**—Chair Karen Lehmann called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm.
2. **Adopt the Agenda**—Moved by Glenn Fenneman, seconded by Linda Hovden to approve the proposed agenda. Motion passed.
3. **Approve May 26, 2020 minutes**—Moved by Don Meyer, seconded by Kris Brunkhorst to approve the May 26, 2020 minutes. Motion passed.
4. **Receive Visitors/Public Comments**—Mary Ventullo was welcomed as a visitor. She is a newly appointed Commissioner who begins her term in July 2020.

#### Regular Business

1. **Election of Officers**—Karen was elected Chair for the 2020-21 year, and Kris Brunkhorst was elected Vice Chair for the 2020-21 year. It was agreed that the remaining Commissioners will serve as Rotating Secretary for the 2020-21 year.
2. **Boost Co. & Advisor (Wartburg College marketing team)**—The marketing proposal was reviewed and discussed. Karen proposed using a different mission statement than stated in the proposal as follows: *The mission of the Waverly Historic Preservation Commission (WHPC) is to recognize, preserve, promote, and safeguard sites and districts of historic and cultural significance in order to educate people and foster pride for the city of Waverly, Iowa, among citizens and visitors*, which is based on the purposes of the Commission listed on the city website. The Commission agreed to use Karen's mission statement. There was also consensus in developing a different logo for the Commission than the one proposed in the Boost Co. report. Don presented some alternative styles for the logo. Kris will ask her son, Zach, to research this further and bring other options to the next meeting.
3. **Preserve Iowa Summit report**—Don, Karen and Mary attended the online virtual sessions and shared highlights. Mary suggested we could do some upgrading at Harlington Cemetery. Karen reported on the beautiful public murals on the walls of buildings in downtown Dubuque, Iowa, and suggested it may be a project for the Waverly community. Don reported on a session urging commissions to recognize more

recent buildings in our community. The 50-year old requirement now includes buildings built in 1970. We tend to not think of them as historic properties. He also reported on resources for Board Development. These items will provide more discussion for future meetings.

4. **Invitation to Waverly Historic Lofts Grand Opening**—All Commissioners are invited to attend the virtual Grand Opening for the Waverly Historic Lofts property (formerly the CUNA Mutual downtown building), on June 25. The building was recently renovated into apartments, and a good share of the building was financed using historic tax credits.
5. **Annual Report to City Council**—Karen will be presenting our Commission’s Annual Report to the City Council at their 7:00 pm meeting tonight. Don will also be attending the virtual meeting. Karen will be sending the content of her report to the Commissioners.
6. **May Preservation Month Activity**—The following activities were discussed:
  - a. Farmer’s Exchange Building—the open house for the completed renovation is still pending
  - b. HIT THE STREETS campaign—Karen reported that Don created a YouTube video promoting folks to get outside and take a walking tour of one our historic districts. She also pointed out that updates have been made to our website to include additional award recipients. We also need to include the First Baptist Church as a recipient of the Waverly Historic Register award. Glenn and Mary reported that they have seen groups taking the walking tours recently.
  - c. Articles in the local newspapers featured the HIT THE STREETS campaign, and put forth a call for nominations for the Commission preservation awards.
  - d. Waverly preservation awards—Crosspoint Church (former Junior High School building) has submitted a nomination for the Waverly Historic Preservation Award. Glenn Fenneman moved, and Don Meyer seconded to approve their nomination and make the award. Motion passed. Karen has talked to the owners of the Bouzard home in the northeast section of town, and Don has talked to Rod Drenkow whose home is in the northwest section of town, about nominating their homes for the Waverly Historic Preservation award. Both are interested and have the nomination form.
  - e. Kris will be forwarding minutes from the May Preservation Month committee meeting (Kris Brunkhorst, Don Meyer and Mary Meyer)
7. **No other old or new business was discussed.**

## **Reports**

1. **City Council Report**—Brian Birgen: Nothing new to report. The upcoming Study Session for the City Council will likely include a discussion on the future of the Green Bridge (3<sup>rd</sup> Street SE Bridge). Brian reported that no decision has been made yet.

2. **City Staff Report**—Isaac Pezley: The America In Bloom organization is looking for 2 or 3 volunteers to discuss historic preservation in Waverly on a zoom call in the near future. This is part of a streetscape project grant the City is reviewing. Kris Brunkhorst, Don Meyer and Karen Lehmann volunteered to be part of the meeting.
3. **Chairperson Report**—No report.

**Adjournment:**

Chair Karen Lehmann declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Don Meyer, Acting Secretary

*Next meeting is scheduled for July 27, 2020, at 5:15 pm. The Commission agreed to continue meeting virtually using the Zoom platform.*