

## HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

**DATE:** January 14, 2015

**TIME:** 4:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Lynn Englund, Merle Hanson, Mary Edel Beyer, Andy Bloedorn, Carolyn Larson, Wes Hamilton, Preston Lawing, Susan Briggs and Kendall Larson

**ABSENT:** Erik Floan

**STAFF PRESENT:** Mark Moeller, City Planner and Myron White, Development Coordinator

**GUESTS:** Greg Gaut and Michael Koop

---

### Call to Order

Chairperson Lynn Englund called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Mary Edel Beyer made a motion to approve the December 10, 2014 meeting minutes, the motion was seconded by Carolyn Larson with all members present voting aye.

### Continued Discussion-Preservation Education Plan Development

Lynn Englund recognized consultant Greg Gaut to lead the discussion on the Plan.

Greg Gaut introduced guest Michael Koop from the State Historic Preservation Office.

- Greg provided an overview of his meeting with the schools. He noted, although there was an interest in historic preservation, the topic does not fit current standards making it difficult for teachers to fit it into the curriculum. He explained the new school superintendent likes the idea of a "History Day" at the school, but would need faculty "buy in".

Wes Hamilton said there might be an opportunity in the area Montessori schools.

- Greg mentioned that a travel commitment would prohibit him from attending the February Commission meeting. He asked the Commission spend some time reflecting on the history of the HPC and work to determine what activities or projects have worked and what has not. He thought we should look to March to consider adoption of the Preservation Education Plan.
- **Review of Mission Statement:** Greg provided the Commission a Draft Short Term Mission Statement. Commissioners reviewed the draft and felt it reflected their thoughts.

-Andy Bloedorn mentioned he liked the ideas of telling stories. Recognizing not only the buildings, but the human stories behind them

HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 14, 2015  
PAGE 2

-The Commission talked about looking for opportunities to speak to groups and who might like to be involved

-Kendall Larson noted that the Historical Society was involved in story projects and highlighted the need for more oral history

- **Michael Koop** of the State Historic Preservation Office was asked to provide insights based on his background and observations.

-Michael noted this was an exciting time in that we have somewhat of a clean slate to work with. He went on to recognize Faribault, Red Wing, and Little Falls as examples of communities that have strong HPC programs. Michael pointed out that some of their success comes from working to be visible and vocal advocates in the community. He noted that successful HPC's worked to:

- 1) Be stewards of Historic Preservation by reviewing alterations and working on ways to incent Historic Preservation
- 2) Identify historic sites through surveys of buildings and sites (Winona's survey information is dated)
- 3) Evaluate resources for their significance
- 4) Nomination/recognition landmarks
- 5) Education/promotion/awareness
- 6) Plan to integrate the Commissions works in community plans and studies

He recognized the Winona HPC web site was in need of improvements. He pointed to Faribault and Stillwater as web sites that proved to be both useful and popular.

Greg Gaut asked how a community might go about updating a web site with limited resources: Michael explained that Stillwater had applied for and received a CLG grant to update their site.

Michael went on to talk about how HPC's define their roles and making property owners comfortable working with their local HPC. He explained many successful HPC's have developed themselves as a resource for property owners such as providing information on the proper care and treatment of historic properties.

Preston Lawing asked about the information MN DOT had gathered on properties surrounding the Mississippi bridge crossing. Michael replied MN DOT had contracted for in depth study of the properties and their condition. He said the info was public information and available digitally.

He explained the pre-application deadline for some of the grants offered was January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Wes commented that we don't seem to have a "go to" person for community outreach and suggested one goal might be the formation of an outreach/education committee of the HPC.

HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 14, 2015  
PAGE 3

Michael then mentioned that the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions was an excellent resource and relatively inexpensive to join. He mentioned that Winona had been a member until about 2 years ago and suggested we might consider rejoining the group.

Andy Bloedorn asked what might be a reasonable goal for the next 12 months. It was suggested to secure funding to update the web site and to include more content.

- **Other:** There were questions relating to the rezoning of the land adjacent to the Alexander Mansion. Mark mentioned that the property and its intended use meet current zoning.

**Next Meeting Scheduled: 4:00 P.M. Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup>.**

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Wes Hamilton and seconded by Andy Bloedorn to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed.



---

Mylon White  
Development Coordinator