

HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

DATE: April 8, 2015

PRESENT: Merle Hanson, Andy Bloedorn, Mary Edel Beyer, Carolyn Larson, Kendall Larson, Susan Briggs and Preston Lawing

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

GUEST: Greg Gaut and Residents from Windom Park Neighborhood

Call to Order

Andy Bloedorn called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm.

Preston Lawing made a motion to approve the minutes from March 11, 2015; the motion was seconded by Kendall Larson.

Continued Discussion-Preservation Education Plan Development

Greg Gaut reviewed that the Plan Development began in November of 2014 and provided an overview of where we've been:

- Development of a mission statement
- Setting of priorities
- Discussion on how the work might get done:
 - Staff
 - Consultants
 - Commission members (sub-committee structure)
- Greg concluded that at the next meeting the Commission should look to finalize the plan.

The Commission then went on to discuss work priorities and the work plan might be implemented:

- **Web Site Development:** The Commission talked of a standalone site with links to the City and other partners.
 - Talked of utilization of MN Historical Society grants to develop the site
 - Will likely need to be a two state program: content development followed by site development
 - Site Update: Staff vs. Service Contract. A function of budget.
- **Traveling Display:** Both as an education piece & to increase the profile of HPC
 - 3-4 panel display with lots of photos
 - public events, markets, choose spots for permanent display
- **Handouts:** The need for something simple and inexpensive to reproduce as some of the current literature is too expensive to reproduce
 - Downtown Walking Tour
 - Stained Glass
 - Winona Historic Homes
 - What is the HPC, what is its charge?
 - What is the Downtown Historic District?
 - Is there an opportunity to charge or gain a sponsor for handouts?

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- **Outreach to Downtown District**
 - Positive message: HPC can be a resource and can help to protect the value of your property
 - Utilize Main Street newsletter as avenue of communication
- **Curriculum Development:** Difficult unless you get teacher "buy-in"
 - Would there be a possibility to work with Winona State/St. Mary's to see if a student could create a curriculum framework
- **National Register/Local Designation:** Core duty of HPC should be a part of annual work plan.
 - Could be designation of a residential historic district
 - Perhaps a goal of 1 residential and 1 commercial designation annuallyKendall asked the cost of consultant to designate a building. Typically \$7-8,000

It was determined that the sub-committee structure would be the primary place where HPC coordinates with collaborators.

Kendall suggested that attention be paid to graphic design components in order to uniformity in mind.

Windom Park Historic District

Mark Moeller asked the item be placed on the agenda as part of the reaction to a proposal to enclose porches on a structure within a district. Mark explained that, because the area is not designated as a historic district, the Commission can't prohibit a homeowner from doing it.

Given interest from residents who were present at the meeting, Mark suggested we re-visit the district that was first initiated in 1995. At that time there was enough resistance from residents of the designated area, the proposed district did not move forward. It was thought, in order to be successful in 2015, the residents of the proposed district would need to express interest (support from the neighborhood would need to be demonstrated).

Mark shared a map of a study area recently conducted by the Department of Transportation as part of the bridge study. If the project is to move forward some of the next steps necessary:

- Documentation supporting the creation of a Windom Park Historic District (staff will provide information on MN Department of Transportation Study of historic structures in the area)
- Determine the geographic area of the proposed district (same as 1995 or larger)
- Determine if the designation should be local or national (local has more "teeth")
- Enlist a consultant to help put the paperwork together.

Next Meeting: May 13: St. Stan's

Staff reminded the Commission that the next meeting will be on May 13th at St. Stan's. Staff was to work on agenda for the event with Lynn Englund and Mary Edel Beyer.

A motion was made by Preston Lawing and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 pm.



Myron White
Development Coordinator