

HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

DATE: September 9, 2015

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

ABSENT: Merle Hanson

STAFF PRESENT: Myron White, Development Coordinator and Carlos Espinosa, City Planner

1. Call to Order:

Wes Hamilton called the meeting to order at 4:04

2. Consideration of August 12, 2015 Minutes

Preston Lawing made a motion to approve the August 9, 2015 minutes, seconded by Carolyn Larson. All those present voted aye.

3. Process for Choosing a Chairperson

Wes Hamilton reported that the nominating committee forwarded a recommendation that Kendall Larson be considered to serve as Chairperson. A motion was made by Mary Edel Beyer to elect Kendall Larson as Chair, the motion was seconded by Carolyn Larson. All those present voted aye with Kendall Larson electing to abstain.

4. Conversation with Carlos Espinosa, City Planner

Carlos provided the HPC with an overview of the project to update to the zoning standards. He went over:

- The calendar for the updates and pointed out opportunities for input into the process.
- Pointed out while the structure will likely remain the same, the regulations need to be changed to keep up with technology.
- There will be an on-line presence for people to keep apprised of the progress and provide input along the way
- Carlos expected the update should wrap up by the end of 2016

5. Proposed HPC Facebook Page

Kendall Larson provided an overview of a proposed HPC Facebook page and offered some guidelines for providing input into the page. Staff person White mentioned that he had talked with City Manager Bodway about the page and she directed staff to gain input from the City Attorney. The HPC thought it would be a good tool and directed staff to work on guidelines with the City Attorney.

6. August Follow-up

Listing of properties considered "endangered": Staff person White reported that a listing of endangered properties does not currently exist. It was suggested that the HPC establish a spread sheet with a list of these properties.

It was also suggested that someone from the HPC contact the Christianson's to get an update on the possible designation of the Windom Park neighborhood.

7. Statewide Preservation Conference

It was reported that Carlos Espinosa would be attending the State Preservation Conference in Little Falls.

8. City Meeting with School Board

There was a general discussion on the August 20th Joint School Board/City Council meeting held August 20th.

- Susan Briggs asked if the HPC should make some type of formal statement such as a letter to the editor
- Wes Hamilton wondered if there should be an opportunity for a public forum asking if the Commission should somehow encourage further dialog.
- Kendall Larson suggested additional research be done on the buildings and perhaps the Commission could be pro-active and gather information on how the buildings might be re-purposed.
- It was suggested a next step might be to hold some type of public meeting to provide information on the school buildings and gain public input.

9. Other Business

The HPC went over recent Certificates of Appropriateness:

- Requested additional information on the windows proposed for the "General Store" building.
- Asked staff to provide an update on the Mason Jar building at the next HPC meeting.

10. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.



Myron White
Development Coordinator