

HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

DATE: March 11, 2020

PRESENT: Cynthia Jennings, Genia Hesser, Merle Hanson, Kendall Larson, Preston Lawing, Connie Dretske, Dennis McEntaffer, and Peter Shortridge

ABSENT: Kelly Fluharty and Innes Henderson

STAFF: Luke Sims, Assistant City Planner

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Genia Hesser called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

2. Approval of Minutes – February 12, 2020

Commissioner McEntaffer moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Dretske seconded the motion. No discussion forthcoming, the Commission voted on the motion at hand. All members present voted aye with Commissioner Larson abstaining.

3. Winona Arts Center – Steven Bachler

Mr. Bachler of the Winona Arts Center informed the Commission of the accessibility improvements the Center was considering for its building and inquired whether there was any potential grant monies that the Commission could think of to provide additional funding for the project. Mr. Bachler clarified that while the building is not a designated building, it is historic within Winona.

Chairperson Hesser suggested utilizing legacy grants as a possibility for the Arts Center. General discussion of the project scope and whether it would fit as a Legacy grant project ensued.

4. Old City Hall Eligibility Determination Update – Tom Zahn and Associates

Tom Zahn and Bethany Gladhill of Tom Zahn and Associates provided an update on information currently learned about the Old City Hall Building through their evaluation process. They informed the Commission that the assumptions entering the project about the property being closely tied to the City as a City Hall are being challenged and it may be more apt to call it the City Jail building which happened to house City Hall offices for roughly a quarter century.

Commissioner Shortridge asked if it looked like the property would be considered for historical significance and architectural significance. Mr. Zahn responded that it is more likely to be considered significant under the historical criteria than the architectural criteria.

Commissioner Larson thanked Mr. Zahn and Ms. Gladhill for taking the time to meet the Commission.

HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 11, 2020

PAGE 2

5. State Review Board – Winona Commercial Historic District

Commissioner Larson moved to approve the documentation in support of the expansion of the Winona Commercial Historic District. Commissioner McEntaffer seconded the motion. All members present voted aye.

6. Q2 2020 COA Committee

Mr. Sims updated the Commission about the Q2 COA Committee assignments. No comment was made by the Commission.

7. Committee Reports

Chairperson Hesser updated the Commission on the COA Committee's activities and the recommended meeting of the Education Committee to consider funding efforts through the 2020 year. No comment was made by the Commission.

8. Other Business

Commissioner Shortridge provided an update on Main Street Lobbying Day at the Minnesota State Capital. He discussed how well received the concepts of historic preservation and historic tax credits were by elected officials and reiterated how important it is to communicate the stories of the historic resources being saved and renovated under the existing legislation.

9. Adjournment

On a motion from Commissioner Lawing and a second from Commissioner Shortridge, the Commission unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 4:42 p.m.



Luke Sims

Assistant City Planner