

Unapproved Minutes  
Historical Preservation Commission  
Wednesday April 7, 2021 Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Vermillion Historical Preservation Commission was called to order via Zoom on April 7, 2021 at 9:02 a.m.

1. Roll Call

Present: Cyndy Chaney, Susan Keith Gray, Jim Wilson, Dietrik Vanderhill

Absent: Ed Gerrish, William Dendinger, Monica Iverson

Staff present: James Purdy, Assistant City Manager; Jose Dominguez, City Engineer; John Prescott, City Manager

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Wilson moved to adopt the agenda with the addition of Permit Review (item 6b), seconded by Chaney. Roll call: Chaney- Y, Wilson-Y, Keith Gray-Y, Vanderhill-Y. The motion carried.

3. Approval of the Minutes

a. March 3, 2021

Wilson moved that minutes be adopted, seconded by Chaney. Roll call: Chaney- Y, Wilson-Y, Keith Gray-Y, Vanderhill-Y. The motion carried.

4. Visitors to be Heard

4a. Michelle Dennis of M.L. Dennis Consulting was present at the meeting. M.L. Dennis consulting is completing the survey on the potential new historic district. Dennis stated that she had been in town for several days examining each property in the potential district. Dennis stated that zeroing in on historical significance is going to be challenging, as many structures in town were built around that the same time. Dennis has found that around 60% of the structures are contributing in the area, and 40% are not. Dennis recommended shifting the eastern boundary of the historic district to include both sides of Linden and Pine. The discussion also included listing Jolly School on the new district. The Commission also discussed the need to come up with a name for the historic district which has been referred to as the S. University Historic District. Dennis will continue working with City staff, the Commission, and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) on Phase I of the project will is scheduled to be completed in June of 2021.

5. Old Business

5a. City staff presented the draft of the 2021-2022 CLG Grant Application to the Commission. After discussion, the consensus of the Commission was to have staff submit the application to the SHPO.

5b. Keith Gray reported that the \$41 million proposal to build a new courthouse will be on the June ballot for Clay County voters. The Commission discussed if it should make a formal statement regarding

the preservation of the historic courthouse, and determined that it will not make any type of formal statement at this time. The Commission also discussed the idea of preservation covenants on the building in the future.

6. New Business

6a. The Commission discussed potential topics of the workshop. No decision was made as to which topic or topics the workshop would include.

6b. Keith Gray stated that the majority of the Commission had weighed in on the permit for 31 E Main St. One more Commissioner will need to make a determination and let the group know. There did not appear to be any issues or concerns with the permit being issued.

7. Adjourn

Moved by Dendinger to adjourn, seconded by Chaney. Chaney- Y, Wilson-Y, Keith Gray-Y, Vanderhill-Y. The motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:03.

Vermillion Historical Preservation Commission