

Unapproved Minutes
Historical Preservation Commission
Wednesday May 6, 2020 Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Vermillion Historical Preservation Commission was called to order via Zoom on May 6, 2020 at 9:02 a.m.

1. Roll Call

Present: Cyndy Chaney, Susan Keith Gray, Johnny Beyers, Dietrik Vanderhill (joined at 9:09am), Jim Wilson, Ed Gerrish, William Dendinger

Absent: Absent

Staff present: John Prescott, City Manager
Jose Dominguez, City Engineer

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Bill Dendinger moved that the commission adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Jim Wilson. Roll call: Dendinger-Y, Chaney-Y, Beyers-Y, Vanderhill-Y, Wilson-Y, Keith Gray-Y, Gerrish-Y. The motion carried.

3. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes will be approved at the next meeting.

4. Visitors to be Heard

No visitors participated in the meeting.

5. Old Business

5a. The CLG application was submitted to the State. Feedback was received on the original application. Additional information was provided and the application was resubmitted. No additional response has been received from the State since the resubmission. Will follow up with an email to see if there are any outstanding questions or concerns. Wilson will contact a list of contractors who could complete the proposed S. University district study.

5b. The approved disclaimer language was reviewed. It will be used on press releases and letters or other documents sent to the public as appropriate.

5c. Noted that the Commission recently reviewed a window permit for 209 Willow. The work has since been completed. No other permits were currently before the Commission for review. Keith Gray had a personal conversation with the contractor working on the window which was helpful. It was noted that personal contact is better than a letter.

5d. Gerrish is on a Committee that will be measuring public opinion on what direction the Clay County Courthouse project should go. Due to the pandemic it is anticipated that moving forward on the project is currently delayed. Wilson noted that the focus should be on preservation vs. the use of the building. Wilson suggested that the

Commission pursue the implementation of Historic Covenants to protect the building. Discussion on how that process might take place.

Several members of the Commission participated in a walk-thru of the Thompson House in early March. The building will be torn down but there is interest in salvaging aspects of the property. The WH Over Museum will be provided first choice in picking items to use for a museum display. Other area salvage companies that might help with the process were noted.

5e. Commission will continue to work on educational outreach to historic property owners. Discussed checking what Rapid City, Brookings, and Sioux Falls do in similar situations. Will also reach out to the three local real estate firms to see how they can communicate to new property owners.

6. New Business

6a. The Commission welcomed new member John Beyer. Mr. Beyer is a Forest Avenue resident who has lived in Vermillion about 8 years. He is passionate about historic items and structures. The Commission looks forward to working with the newest Commissioner.

6b. Keith-Gray noted that the Preserve Iowa Summit will only be available on a virtual basis this year. The cost is \$20 a person for full access to all of the offerings. Wilson suggested that the Clay County Historic Preservation Commission would cover the cost of the conference. Attendance at the conference would help the Commission cover part of the participatory requirements of the CLG application. The email with the registration link and conference information will be sent to all of the Commission members.

7. Adjourn

Moved by Dendinger to adjourn, seconded by Chaney. Beyers-Y, Vanderhill-Y, Wilson-Y, Keith Gray-Y, Gerrish-Y, Dendinger-Y, Chaney-Y. Motion carried 9:44 a.m.

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