

Unapproved Minutes
Historical Preservation Commission
Wednesday October 2, 2019 Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Vermillion Historical Preservation Commission was called to order in the Large Conference Room at City Hall on October 2, 2019 at 9:03 a.m.

1. Roll Call

Present: Susan Keith Gray, Gloria Hensley, Ed Gerrish, Jim Wilson, William Dendinger, Dietrik Vanderhill, Cyndy Chaney

Absent:

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

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Gloria Hensley moved that the Commission adopt the agenda, seconded by William Dendinger. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of the Minutes

Jim Wilson moved that the September 11th minutes be adopted as written, seconded by Cyndy Chaney. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Visitors to be Heard

None

5. Old Business

- 5a. Update on deed research for potential historic district
- 5b. Discussion of historic properties and commission involvement

5a. Jim Wilson reported that the deed research is going well. The paid researcher is a USD graduate student in the history department. The Commission then discussed what the next steps for the new historic district would be after the research is completed. The Commission would first consult with Liz Almlie from the South Dakota State Historical Society about establishing an era of significance for the district.

The Commission discussed also speaking with Liz Almlie about some uses for any grant money received in 2020. Several ideas were discussed including completing the survey of the potential new historic district, training someone in the community to conduct surveys, or partnering with the Clay County Historic Preservation Commission (CCHPC) on a joint website.

5b. The Commission has reviewed two building permits to date:

16 W Main St- recommended approval

11 Court St- recommended approval

City staff noted that there is another review pending submittals to the City Building Official.

6. New Business

6a. Discussion regarding new proposed health sciences building on USD campus

6b. Notifying new property owners in historic districts

6a. City staff stated that they have very limited information when it comes to building projects on the USD campus as the City does not issue building permits for on-campus construction. Jim Wilson stated that due to that fact, the Commission as well as the CCHPC would have little to no involvement. Jim reported that the only way the two organizations would be involved would be if the project utilizes federal funds, which would necessitate an environmental assessment, also commonly known as a 106 assessment. It was also noted that construction would most likely not take place for a couple years.

6b. The Commission concluded that the best way to notify new property owners in historic districts about preservation resources in the community would be working directly with the major realty companies in town. Jim Wilson stated that the CCHPC had the same idea several years, but some turnover in the organization affected the follow-through. Jim noted that the CCHPC would most likely be very interested in revisiting this idea. The Commission then discussed ideas on how to best deliver the information to the new property owners. It was concluded that it would be unrealistic to expect realtors to hand out the information, but that maybe if the Commission received some names and addresses it could put together a mailing. The Commission will continue this discussion at the next meeting.

Jim Wilson stated that he had a couple off-agenda items to discuss. The CCHPC will be presenting awards for historic preservation at the October 23rd meeting of the Rotary Club. The UCC will be celebrating its 150th anniversary October of next year. Gloria Hensley also reported that the Clay County Historical Society will be hosting a "Spoken History Cemetery Tour" on October 14th.

7. Adjourn

Moved by Commissioner Gerrish to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Chaney. Motion carried at 9:55 a.m.

Vermillion Historical Preservation Commission