
MINUTES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING,
Thursday, April 11, 2013 @ 4:30 p.m.
Police Substation, 1501 1st Avenue SE

Members Present: Amanda McKnight-Grafton Chair
 Todd McNall Vice-Chair
 Moiria Blake
 Patricia Cargin
 Bob Grafton
 Candy Nanke
 Tim Oberbroeckling

Members Absent: Jon Thompson
 Barbara Westercamp

City Staff: Thomas Smith, Planner
 Alicia Abernathy, Administrative Assistant

Guests: Cindy Hadish

Call Meeting to Order

- Amanda McKnight-Grafton called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.
- Seven (7) Commissioners were present and two (2) absent.

1. Approve Meeting Minutes

- Todd McNall made a motion to approve the minutes from March 28. Tim Oberbroeckling seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with none opposed.

2. Action Items

a. NEW Demolition Applications

i. 1221 3rd Street SE – Private Property

- Amanda McKnight-Grafton stated the property is in the NewBo Historic District and is a contributing structure. The property does have a rundown appearance, but if the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) were to approve demolition of a contributing structure it could set a precedent.
- Discussion included the fact one of the walls of the structure is collapsed, there was an intent to have an engineer view the property but it is unknown if that took place.
- Tim Oberbroeckling made a motion to place a 60-day demolition review on 1221 3rd Street SE. Bob Grafton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Candy Nanke volunteered to serve as the liaison for the property.

Pat Cargin joined the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

- Mr. Smith stated from now on staff will be placing a notice in the Gazette, prior to each meeting, listing the properties that will be considered for demolition. If properties are placed on a 60-day review a sign will be posted on the property.

3. New Business

a. Demolition Ordinance Definition Update

- Mr. Smith stated there is currently a gap in the City's existing historic preservation ordinance that allows property owners to remove the majority of a structure from a potentially-historic property without review by the HPC. Recently a potentially-historic property was deconstructed down to the foundation and chimney and then rebuilt, which is not considered demolition in the current ordinance.
- Mr. Smith provided 5 options, of what other cities are doing, for the commission to discuss and consider for usage in the City's ordinance.
- Discussion included the possibility of including the removal of ornamentation in the demolition definition. Discussion also included the need for fines or consequences for demolishing a potentially-historic structure without HPC approval.
- Discussion also included the idea of separating the demolition definition into three groups including local historic districts, nationally registered historic districts and other potentially-historic properties.
- The commission did not make a decision on a demolition definition but were asked to research potential definitions and bring ideas to the next meeting for discussion.

b. Replacement of Historic District Markers

- Mr. Smith stated this topic is up for discussion because there are issues with existing historic district signs. Mr. Smith pointed out there would \$10,000 available to replace historic district signs through a current LOA.
- Discussion included the need for these signs as they inform the public they are entering a historic district. Discussion included whether or not to have the signs as borders to the historic districts or to have them at every intersection within the historic district.
- The commission did not make a decision and decided to discuss in further detail at a May meeting.

4. Old Business

a. Kirkwood Preservation Program Funding

- Mr. Smith pointed out this item was discussed at the previous HPC meeting on March 28th and gave an overview of the discussion. The Kirkwood Preservation Program would be funded through a transfer of the Auto Row Historic District MOA funds. Mr. Smith went over possible options and reasons for reallocating funds.
- Teri Toye, FEMA, explained the process for reallocating MOA/LOA funds and pointed out the City of Cedar Rapids, FEMA and Homeland Security would need to review the Kirkwood Program curriculum and sign off on reallocation of funds.
- Discussion included the amount of available money to fund the project and the fact the process would take 2-3 months to complete.
- Tim Oberbroeckling made a motion in support of amending the 1st Street Parkade MOA to remove and reallocate funds from the 2nd Avenue SE Auto Row Historic District to a Kirkwood Historic Preservation Continuing Education Program

curriculum; and to implement the program using some of the funds from the 15 technical assistance workshops included in the LOA. Candy Nanke seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Preservation Showcase

- Details of the 2013 Preservation Showcase were discussed.

c. MOA/LOA Updates

- There were no MOA/LOA updates.

5. Adjournment

- Tim Oberbroeckling made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:57 p.m. Todd McNall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alicia Abernathey, Administrative Assistant II
Community Development