

MINUTES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING,
Thursday, July 25, 2013 @ 4:30 p.m.

City Hall Council Chambers, 101 First Street SE

Members Present: Amanda McKnight-Grafton Chair
Todd McNall Vice-Chair
Bob Grafton
Candy Nanke
Tim Oberbroeckling
Barbara Westercamp

Members Absent: Patricia Cargin
Moira Blake
Mark Stoffer Hunter

HPC City Staff: Alex Sharpe, Planner
Alicia Abernathy, Administrative Assistant

Guests: Cindy Hadish, Jennifer Pratt, Kevin Ciabatti, Jerry McGrane, Dan Perez,
Julie Perez, Osman Abdi Omar

Call Meeting to Order

- Amanda McKnight-Grafton called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.
- Six (6) Commissioners were present and three (3) were absent.

Public Comment

- Members of the public introduced themselves.

1. Action Items

a. NEW Demolition Applications

i. 1012 8th Street SE – Private Property

- Jerry McGrane stated he lives near 1012 8th Street SE and the house has been in poor condition for approximately 10 years. The house has become an eye-sore to the neighborhood and a place for people to party.
- Dan Perez stated he has lived in the neighborhood for one year and he has been helping maintain the 1012 8th Street SE property. There is structural damage and termite damage to the property. There has been a lot of vandalism to the property and the property is a home to many pests. The property is an eye-sore for the neighborhood and poses a risk to the community.
- Kevin Ciabatti stated the property owner passed away and there has been no success in contacting a family member. The City of Cedar Rapids is filing for the demolition

using nuisance demolition funding. The property will be maintained by the City after demolition.

- Tim Oberbroeckling made a motion to approve demolition of 1012 8th Street SE. Barbara Westercamp seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Discussion took place about the different ways the commission can vote. It was pointed out the commission's vote can be overturned by the City Council.
- Discussion took place on whether the HPC should have the first right to salvage rather than demolition contractors.

Candy Nanke arrived at 4:40 p.m.

b. COA Applications

i. 1625 2nd Avenue SE – Replace Front Porch

- Alex Sharpe stated the property owner would like to replace the railing, flooring, skirting and stairs of the front porch. The property owner would also like to replace his windows and doors but those aspects would be discussed at a future meeting.
- Osman Abdi Omar stated the original columns of the porch would remain in place.
- Discussion included the use of 1x4 planks for the railings and having a curved top railing. Discussion also included the fact unpainted, treated lumber is not allowed in the historic district and the railings and skirting need to mimic the previous railing and skirting. Discussion also included the railing height and whether it needs to match the previous height or if it needs to meet current code requirements.
- Bob Grafton volunteered to serve as the liaison for this project.
- Discussion included the paint rebate program available to homes in the historic district.
- Barbara Westercamp made a motion the applicant restore the porch as close as possible to the 1969 appearance and the HPC appoint a liaison. Tim Oberbroeckling seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with none opposed.

Tim Oberbroeckling left the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

c. COA Applications UNDER REVIEW

i. 1527 2nd Avenue SE–Private Property–WITHIN LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

- Mr. Grafton stated there is currently a lien on the property that needs to be taken care of before a potential investor can purchase the property. The property is currently secure.

d. 1821 Ridgewood Terrace SE Update

- Mr. Grafton stated there was concern the porch was not being restored as HPC requested but after speaking with the homeowner the completed porch will be what HPC requested.

2. Adjournment

- Barbara Westercamp made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:37 p.m. Todd McNall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alicia Abernathey, Administrative Assistant II
Community Development