

HPC
Monday, August 29th, 2011

Commission Members:

Linda Mann-Chair	Melody Gibson
Mary Flicek	Al Wharton
Ron Prescher	Bruce Wildes
(1) Vacancy	

City Representatives:

Molly Patterson-Lundgren, City Planner
Phil Rosendale, Zoning Administrator

PROCEEDINGS OF THE HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION

The regular meeting of the Heritage Preservation Commission was held on Monday, August 29th, 2011 at City Hall and was called to order at 9:05 am by Linda Mann.

Roll found members all members present

Changes/Additions –

1. Molly requested under old business to add discussion on the proposed street clock donation by the Doffing Foundation
2. Mary requested under old business to add discussion on the upcoming SHPO conference

Commissioner Flicek provided suggested corrections to the July meeting minutes including: change of date of meeting from July 26th to the 25th (at the top) and from June 27th to July 25th in the first line. Also that Linda, not she (Mary) had called the meeting to order last month. Finally that a change on the second page reflect that her announcement of the upcoming Veterans open house was to be sponsored by Flicek Insurance (not her personally) and that a news release (as opposed to a paid ad) would be sent to the newspaper. Commissioner Wharton and Prescher moved to approve the July 25th, 2011 meeting minutes with changes suggested. Adopted unanimously with changes.

Design Review – None

New Business

Discussion on “Yard Signs”. Molly presented the new sign that Dennis Carr has created to replace his old A-Frame sign. She said that based on her reading of the definition of a “yard sign”, the A-Frame meets that definition and therefore there would be no requirement for either a permit or HPC design review. The sign is a portable sign with an unchangeable permanent sign face and is under 9 square feet.

Discussion occurred on why we came up with the yard sign definition. Molly explained that we cannot regulate content of a sign. She reminded the commission of the League of MN Cities memo on Signage and the First Amendment. We therefore created the definition based on the size, material, and design of the type of sign that would allow real estate signs. Options discussed including adding additional requirements for yard signs in the downtown district. One of the issues is that a sign can fall under both definitions “yard sign” and “sidewalk sign”.

Commissioner Gibson said that yard signs are on yards and sidewalk signs are on sidewalks. Molly said that is not what the definition states. Molly pointed out that the definition of sidewalk sign states that they are not necessarily placed on a sidewalk. Commissioner Gibson suggested that then maybe the definition should be changed. Discussion ensued on options for changing definitions and requirements.

Commissioner Wharton made a motion that the sign being discussed is a sidewalk sign, not a yard sign and requires review and a permit. The motion failed due to lack of a second.

Molly stated that it sounds that the commission might like to see some options on separating these two types of signs, clarifying the definitions. It was agreed that Molly would prepare some material for the Commission to consider at the next meeting. Chair Mann

HPC priorities. Molly explained that she would be preparing the year end report as required under the CLG standards. She suggested that it might be a good time to look at what the commissions goals and priorities are and what has been accomplished in the past year. Mary asked for a timeline of potential grants to tie into priorities. Discussion on changes to the sign ordinance might be a priority for the next several months.

MN Homefront traveling exhibit. Molly reported the attendance numbers and donations to date. Nearly 300 people had already attended. Donations include over a \$100 from cash on site. Known expenses at this point include gas. We will not know utility until Jewsons provide that. Molly also indicated that the City has also done quite a bit of printing on this and some of the donations can go back to the general fund to cover this. It was agreed that exhibit teardown would be on Wednesday the 7th of September at 4:00 p.m.

Doffing Foundation Clock. Molly provided information that it looks like MnDOT will be allowing the clock placement under the bridge. Molly reminded them that there was a subcommittee established (Ron and Bruce) to make a final approval on the location. The committee and Molly will be checking with the Mayor about meeting to discuss final location selection.

SHPO Conference will be held the 21st -23rd of September. Molly has signed up herself, Mary, and Linda. A CLG scholarship has been applied for to cover costs of those that will be attending the entire conference.

Molly mentioned that the old Bridgewater B&B has sold and Ritchie Mann is working to get it reopened.

Mary mentioned that Loco Gringo's has closed and may have been purchased already to be re-opened soon.

The old dry cleaners building had been purchased by Proud Antiques. They will be working on getting the new location set up in the next several months.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 26th, 2011 at 9am.

Commissioners Flicek and Wharton moved to adjourn at 10:30 am. Adopted unanimously.

Molly Patterson-Lundgren, City Planner