

Minutes of Meeting
Historic Preservation Commission
Via Electronic Means
Zoom and City Website

May 3, 2021

ROLL CALL:

Board members present: Hurto, Reinheimer, Niskin, Michener (Joins 1:03 PM)

Board members absent:

Staff Present: Erin Chambers, Director of Community Development
Matt Muckler, City Administrator

Others: Erin Yeager, Newton Main Street (Leaves 2:24 PM)
Mark Hallam, City Council Person (Joins 1:25 PM)

Chair Hurto called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Chair Larry Hurto questioned if there was anyone present that may require special assistance in being able to participate in this public meeting. There was no response.

Approval of the Agenda. Motion by Reinheimer, **seconded** by Niskin to approve the agenda for the current meeting. Voice Vote: 3-0, approved.

Certification of Iowa Open Meetings Law: Chambers confirms.

Approval of the Previous Meeting of April 2021. Minutes of previous meeting were reviewed and approved with corrections. **Motion** by Reinheimer, **seconded** by Michener, Approved, 4-0.

Corrections:

- Page 2, Downtown/Residential Signage, 1st Sentence, add “Smith” after “Linda Griffith”
- Page 2, Downtown/Residential Signage, Paragraph 2, reword 2nd sentence to read: “Niskin recommended a long term approach and that First Avenue needs recognition as well as the Downtown.”
- Page 2, Individual Reports, Michener, 1st sentence: “bet” changed to “be”
- Page 2, Individual Reports, Reinheimer, reword 3rd sentence to read: “Reinheimer asked if it would be a violation of open meetings law should the members of the commission gathered as a group of friends for trivia night.”
- Page 2, Individual Reports, Niskin, replace “her home” with “a picture of her home damaged in the 1918 tornado.”
- Page 2, Items from Citizens, Muckler, 1st sentence, replace “selling out” with “final selling of”

Communications from State Historic Preservation Office.

- 4/7/21 Email: Preserve Iowa Summit Registration Live
- 4/12/21 Email: 2021 Preservation At Its Best Deadline

There was a short discussion regarding sharing commission efforts with the State Preservation Office.

There was a short discussion on “back to normal” operations with regards to COVID measures and meetings.

Items from City Staff.

- a. **Solar Installation 112 North 2nd Avenue West.** Chambers reviewed the proposed solar panel installation at 112 North 2nd Avenue West (Aleya Salon Building). **Motion** by Reinheimer, **seconded** by Michener recommending approval of the building permit for the solar installation at 112 North 2nd Avenue West finding it to be a benefit to the community, building and business. Voice Vote: 4-0, Unanimous Approval.

Items from the Commission.

- a. **Downtown Plaques.** Hurto reported that he saw the 6 newest plaques. Michener reported that she has delivered the newest plaques to Newton Main Street for distribution; Erin Yeager (Newton Main Street) will pass out in honor of preservation month. Reinheimer initiated a discussion on the next plaques to be made. She offered the following buildings: Forbes, Cappy’s, Maidrite, E Clips, NDN, Terlouw’s 1st Avenue West Building. There was discussion about the approach for multi-tenant buildings such as Skiff Block, Allfree Building, or Hotel Maytag.
- b. **Signage.** An image by Niskin for permanent signage was included in the packet and presented. There was discussion about the use of the profile of the sign to suggest the connection of commercial and residential historic areas. There were several ideas about implementation and materials noted. Commissioners discussed designs of Marshalltown street signs. Hurto reminded the commission of the desire to finish the plaque project first before embarking on this next signage project. Niskin agreed to sketch additional designs.
- c. **Lunch and Learns.** Chambers noted the emails circulating about Commissioners speaking at Lunch and Learn events resuming at the museum. Hurto and Reinheimer reported that they have told the museum that their preference would be to participate later in the year.

Individual Reports.

Reinheimer. Reinheimer asked if the building/buildings owned by Mr. & Mrs. Wade at 201 1st Avenue West was one or two buildings. Same question regarding the Pangborn Building. The Commission’s consensus was that they are two separate buildings and can have two separate signs/plaques.

Michener. Michener noted family guests for her son’s wedding could take advantage of the various efforts to promote things to do and explore in town- especially those efforts by HPC. Michener lead a discussion about diversity and how the commission might be able to get more diversity in perspectives and engagement.

Niskin. Niskin asked if it would be possible to have a meeting or gathering of the commission at Muse Wine Bar. There was discussion about promoting the work of the commission in that way more. Staff reminded that official work of the commission would not be able to take place in an alcohol serving establishment.

Hurto. Hurto noted the April 16th Progress Edition. Hurto reported that as of January 28, 2021, he is the assistant director for the Jasper County Museum.

Items from Citizens.

Hallam. Hallam noted the return of a grand piano to Hotel Maytag Ballroom. He gave an update about Alumni Weekend occurring on Jun 11, 12, and 13th.

Other Discussion.

Chambers asked if the Commission would be willing to meet on June 14th in stead of their normal date on June 7th. **Motion** by Reinheimer, **seconded** by Niskin to set the next meeting date for June 14, 2021. Voice Vote: 4-0, unanimous approval.

Adjournment. **Motion** by Michener to adjourn the meeting and **seconded** by Reinheimer. Voice vote, approved 4-0. Meeting was adjourned at 2:44 pm.