

Historic Preservation Commission Minutes

January 4, 2024

Meeting was called to order at 5:00pm.

Members present: Scott Sogge, Christine Heidebrink, Kara Hagen, Debra Johnston, Carl Hall

Guests: Mayor Bob Nelson

Debra Johnston presided over the meeting in Pat Lyke's absence and the agenda was amended to include a copy of Committee Roles and Responsibilities.

Minutes: A motion was made by Kara to approve the minutes from January December 6TH, 2023. Carl seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed.

New Business:

- 1) **Welcome new HPC member** – New member, Carl Hall, was welcomed to the committee. Bob Nelson stated that he had received notice that Joe Muller would not be renewing his term that ended as of January 1, 2024. Pat Lyke and Christine Heidebrink also have terms that expired as of the first of the year and will need to be reaffirmed if they wish to continue serving on the committee. Members were encouraged to seek out others that may be interested in serving as well.
- 2) **CLG (Certified Local Government) Grant Project Options** - Project ideas were discussed with the foremost being a revised Historic Preservation Packet to provide to owners and potential buyers. Debra indicated that she had attempted to find the appropriate In-Kind form to be using, but it was not available at the link that had been provided. We will have to continue to investigate this.
- 3) **7 Sister Mountain Range Designation as Point of Interest** - The committee was approached regarding making the 7 Sister Mountain Range a designated point of interest. All in attendance were agreeable to the idea but felt additional information was needed regarding the history of how the mountains were named, placement, size, and cost of signage, and the possibility of funding with a CLG grant.

Old Business:

- 1) **Springs Lodge & Café Additional Storage Structures** – A motion was made by Kara to rescind the approval made on December 6Th, 2023 for the placement of two storage sheds on the Springs Lodge & Café property. The original vote was made with no visual representation and upon viewing the subject property, it was determined that the siding and colors of the sheds should match existing structures to maintain continuity. Carl seconded the motion, no further discussion, and the motion was passed.

2) **Deterioration by Neglect Update** - An update was provided by Mayor Bob Nelson on the status of the deterioration by neglect action taken against the owners of the properties located at 243 N River St and 611 N River St. A new letter was served to the owner of 243 N River St, therefore the first 90-day timeframe has started and will expire on March 31ST, 2024. If no response is received, the next 180-day timeframe will commence and the city attorneys will continue to move forward in the process. Conversation has been initiated with the owner of 611 N River St, but there are no definite plans to take corrective measures at this time.

A motion was made by Kara to investigate the structure at 143 S Chicago St. to see if it qualifies to be added to the Deterioration by Neglect list. Motion was seconded by Carl and with no further discussion, motion was passed. Scott will make arrangements to inspect the property and report back.

Other Discussion:

Carl initiated discussion regarding a long-project to address the erosion / intrusion of the hillside behind the North River Street commercial buildings. This has been an issue for years and presents problems with drainage, structure damage, and no access at the back of the buildings due to the constantly falling rock and dirt. Different ideas were discussed including removal of excess dirt and rock that has accumulated, a method to retain it in the future, drain tile, and protective membrane for structures. It was also acknowledged that this would all be very costly, so it is something that would take quite a bit of planning and resources.

Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 6:12pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 7, 2024 at 5:00pm.