

MINUTES
PRESERVATION COMMISSION
AUGUST 20, 2014
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brent Bogen, Lendol Calder, Kent Cornish, Anthony Heddlesten, Craig Kavensky, Lo Milani, John Strieter, Sue Swords, Colleen Vollman

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: Linda Anderson, Jeff Dimer, Diane Oestreich

STAFF PRESENT: Ben Griffith, Brandy Howe

OTHERS PRESENT: Jessica Jackson, Andy Klockau

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Bogen called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

AN ORDER APPROVING THE WRITTEN AGENDA:

MOTION: Heddlesten made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Milani seconded the motion.
The motion carried on a vote of 9-0.

AN ORDER APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 16, 2014 MEETING

MOTION: Kavensky made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Cornish seconded the motion.
The motion carried on a vote of 9-0.

ADVISORY SESSION FOR 544 23RD STREET, ROCK ISLAND (LEVI HAVERSTICK HOUSE):

Homeowners Andy Klockau and Jessica Jackson indicated that they are interested in purchasing and installing a 7x7 or 6x8 garden shed that would be placed at the end of the driveway approximately 3 feet from the property line and 6 feet from the rear of the house at a location where a shed had previously existed. They looked at several options for sheds and determined that a resin shed with architectural detailing would work best for their needs as it is made of sturdy material that will withstand weather and would be easy to assemble and disassemble if ever they decided to remove it. They presented a wood alternative to the resin shed that would be painted to match the house.

Associate Oestreich asked if a permit is required to install a shed. Griffith confirmed that there is no permit needed for the size requested.

Cornish asked if the resin shed would be installed on a slab. Mr. Klockau indicated that the resin shed comes with a floor, an advantage over the wooden shed which would require a slab or other foundation at additional cost. Heddlesten noted his concern is that the shed be placed on a sound foundation. Mr. Klockau indicated that the bottom of the resin shed is textured to discourage shifting.

Associate Anderson suggested that landscaping should be encouraged and cited an example near the Augustana campus on 38th Street.

Heddlesten suggested the Commission comment on the detailing of the shed that they consider to be appropriate so that they are consistent in their decision making when the time comes to consider a certificate of appropriateness for this or other similar future cases. Associate Dimer noted that historically garden sheds were very utilitarian in design and function and that the proposed shed is in keeping with that and also includes some architectural detailing—siding, trim, corner boards—that is appropriate for a

historic structure. Cornish added that the Commission must remember that this is an advisory session and they do not want to get into a situation where they steer the homeowner in one direction and then pull the legs out from under them when they come before the Commission for a certificate of appropriateness.

Strieter asked if the shed could be placed farther back on the property away from 6th Avenue. Mr. Klockau indicated that the topography would not enable that and even if it were possible, it would be visible from 23rd Street. Mr. Klockau also indicated that they prefer to have it near the pavement for ease in accessing tools from the shed.

Strieter suggested he'd like to see the shed painted to match the house. Oestreich noted that while paints do exist that would work on the resin material; it is not the Commission's role to control colors.

Associate Anderson added that this discussion points to the need for additional research on what new materials are appropriate for historic structures.

Chairman Bogen confirmed with the Commission that the resin shed as presented was an acceptable option.

RESOLUTION TO SUPORT QCCVB BID TO HOST THE 2015 ILLINOIS MAIN STREET/STATEWIDE HISTORICAL PRESERVATION CONFERENCE IN THE ILLINOIS QUAD CITIES:

Howe reported that she had received a letter from Jessica Licko-Avant with the Quad Cities Convention and Visitor's Bureau requesting the Preservation Commission's support for QCCVB's proposal to host the joint Illinois Main Street and Illinois Preservation Conference in June 2015. Cornish jokingly asked why the Commission would not support the QCCVB in their proposal. Associate Oestreich noted that if selected, QCCVB may request that the Commission provide assistance in conference activities, such as walking tours.

MOTION: Vollman moved to approve the resolution as presented in the Commission packet. Heddlesten seconded the motion. **The motion carried on a vote of 9-0.**

CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON PRESERVATION COMMISSION PROJECTS

Chairman Bogen opened the floor for discussion on outreach activities. Associate Anderson reviewed the list discussed at last month's meeting. Strieter emphasized that home maintenance should be a focus of the Commission. Milani shared a letter he wrote to the Argus requesting a regular column on home maintenance and other preservation-related topics. Strieter asked if that would be duplicative to the efforts of other City Commissions. Milani noted that this might be similar to the activities conducted by Neighborhood Partners and suggested a joint meeting of the Commission and Neighborhood Partners. Associate Oestreich noted that the Neighborhood Partners' Community Solutions Task Force would very likely be supportive of Commission activities to improve property maintenance.

Swords noted her concern about whether a newspaper article would reach their target audience. Vollman suggested that the paper is available online as well and via smart phones. Heddlesten suggested that multiple media outlets should be employed.

Cornish commented that the Commission's responsibility should be to generate awareness about preservation and to provide information related to maintaining historic buildings. He handed out a half page handout listing the following newspaper article suggestions: The value of preservation; What is a landmarked property? How is it designated?; Historic districts – what's the difference?; Historic properties – what is regulated?; Help available for historic properties; Help with exteriors; Yards and fences; Available resources; Modern materials and preservation. Associate Anderson noted that if they receive a commitment from the Argus, the Commission needs to be ready to follow through by regularly providing articles. Cornish asked who would be willing to do the work. Vollman, Swords, and Chairman Bogen volunteered. Associate Oestreich suggested a partnership with Moline as the Argus is a paper that serves

both communities. The Commission agreed with the idea. Chairman Bogen confirmed with the Commission that a regular Argus column is an activity the Commission would like to pursue.

Heddlesten suggested regular tours of historic neighborhoods as another project for the Commission, citing examples from other communities throughout the country. He added that QCCVB would help to market tours if they were consistent and repeatable. Heddlesten added that in addition to the existing brochures, audio tours via smart phones using QC codes could be another approach to providing tours. A length discussion ensued on historic tours. Vollman reminded the Commission that applications for CLG grants will become available at the end of August. The Commission discussed the possibility of using QC codes in the downtown as a pilot project and the possibility of applying for a CLG grant to implement such a program.

Calder asked if it would be desirable to have an undergraduate class at Augustana devoted to historic preservation given the fact that he is currently planning new courses for his students. Vollman suggested that he look into Southeast Missouri State's historic preservation program for course ideas. The Commission unanimously agreed that it would be very beneficial to have Augustana students available to help with projects that promote preservation.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Griffith stated that no applications had been submitted for the September 17th meeting but while the deadline for landmarks had passed, the deadline for COA's was not until the following Tuesday. Griffith asked if all Commissioners had completed their Open Meetings Act training. It was confirmed that all Commissioners had completed the OMA training. Griffith reminded everyone about the upcoming training on August 27th at St. John's Lutheran Church. Howe indicated she would send a reminder to those Commissioners who have not yet RSVP'd. Associate Oestreich reminded the Commission about a Historic Tax Credit Workshop that will be held on Thursday, August 28th at the Establishment Theatre. Griffith reminded everyone to be mindful of any *ex parte* communications and to contact the Planning Office with any questions regarding any items on upcoming agendas.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Vollman moved adjourn. Milani seconded the motion. **The motion carried on a vote of 9-0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Brandy Howe