

MINUTES  
OF  
MOUNT VERNON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
Tuesday, October 7, 2014

The Historic Preservation Commission met on Tuesday, October 7, 2014. Commission members present included Ed Sauter, Hugh Lifson, Janet Budack, Guy Booth, Dick Thomas, Sarah Kelly, and Leah Rogers.

The meeting was called to order by Ed Sauter. There are three items for design review on the agenda.

Andy Wolfe has presented an Application for a Certificate of Appropriateness for replacing the siding on a garage on his property located at 703 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW, Mount Vernon, IA. Andy indicates that the siding on the garage is a fairly wide composite board siding that is deteriorating. He desires to replace the siding with size-appropriate narrower siding. He will be using a concrete board siding. Upon motion made by Dick Thomas and seconded by Janet Budack, it is moved that the Commission issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for the replacing of siding on the garage. The motion carried unanimously.

The second portion of the design review for Andy Wolfe relates to the back porch of the house. Andy indicates that it has foundation problems, as well as some sagging in the roof line. He desires to remove the old porch and rebuild it in its current footprint. He will be putting in a new poured concrete foundation, and is considering putting a faux stone cladding on the foundation so it comes close to matching the limestone foundation on the house. There was discussion regarding the use of a faux material on the project.

Andy also gave information regarding the new back porch. It will be higher in the interior which will need to be accommodated in the roof line. Andy indicates it may be necessary to shorten two of the windows on that side of the house to accommodate the pitch of the roof if the ceiling is to be higher. Andy did not have a final drawing of the work to be done. Ed Sauter suggested that the request for a Certificate of Appropriateness seems premature as we do not have a final plan from the contractor. Andy indicates that the project will probably not be done this fall, so he is willing to get the final drawings after meeting with his contractor so the Commission can evaluate the application based upon the construction that will be done. It was agreed that this portion of his application should be considered a pre-review of plans, and that the Commission would defer action on the application until Andy has completed his planning of the project and until he submits the final plans to the Historic Preservation Commission. No motion was necessary for approval, as this will come before the Commission when the final plan is prepared.

The third design review application came from Michael Ripke, whose house is located at 518 8<sup>th</sup> St. NW, Mount Vernon, IA. Mr. Ripke is doing some renovation on the house, which includes putting more living space in the basement of the house. He desires to put in a 4'x4' window on the 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue side of the house which would meet zoning and building code requirements for an egress from the basement of the house.

Upon motion made by Sarah Kelly and seconded by Hugh Lifson, the Commission issued a certificate of no material effect. The motion passed unanimously.

Ed Sauter gave a brief review of the street lights that the Mount Vernon Bank will be putting in front of their building. These will be similar to the lights recommended in the proposed streetscape plan. Ed Sauter also reported that the City will be cutting down the several mature trees that are in the downtown area and will replace them immediately with new trees that have been selected by the City. The commission agrees that the tree plan for Downtown needs to be completed.

No further business being presented, Ed Sauter declared the meeting to be adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Guy Booth, Secretary