

MINUTES  
OF  
MOUNT VERNON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
Wednesday, June 8, 2016

The Historic Preservation Commission met on Wednesday, June 8, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. Commission members present included Hugh Lifson, Ed Sauter, Janet Budack, Sara Kelly, Sue Hargas, Leah Rogers and Guy Booth.

The purpose of today's meeting was a design review request coming from Dale and Brenda Broulik, owners of a building at 103 1<sup>st</sup> St. NW in Mount Vernon. They have applied for a building permit for work on their property that is behind the building, between the building and the city alley.

Dale Broulik was present and provided pictures of the alternatives for the construction of a retaining wall. The Brouliks initially want to cut away a portion of the hill directly on the north side of their building so that they will have parking places on their property. The excavation of the hill will require retaining walls to be built on the property line so the land from the neighboring parcels will not slide into the proposed parking area.

In addition to building the retaining wall and the parking area, the Brouliks also propose putting in a retaining wall approximately 12 to 15 feet behind the building. This will hold the remaining portion of the hill in place. The Brouliks further indicate they may want to build a deck that comes off the main floor of the building in the 12 to 15 foot area between the building and the proposed parking.

Questions were raised regarding the nature of the material that would be used for the retaining wall. Mr. Broulik indicated it would be cement blocks that are similar to those used in a parking/retaining wall project at the Niederhauser building.

There was some discussion regarding the attempt to have uniformity in the design of retaining walls and parking on the north side of the buildings on both sides of 1<sup>st</sup> Street in the downtown area. It was also suggested that instead of having a concrete driveway, that the Brouliks look into the feasibility of permeable paving bricks so rain water can drain through the surface, and not collect and run off on to the downhill property.

Upon motion made by Hugh Lifson, seconded by Sara Kelly, a certificate of appropriateness for the excavation and parking plan of the Brouliks was approved. It was requested that the building material used for the retaining walls be compatible to the building material that has been used by other property owners such as the Niederhauser property. Mr. Broulik will appear for additional requests if he determines to build a deck on the back of his building.

In other business, Hugh Lifson indicated that the city government does not approve of the plan to have an open house for presentation of the Mickey Woods mural during Heritage Days. They feel the City would take on additional liability risks if the building were open during that time. It was suggested that an alternate date to be selected, with one

possibility being during the September Arts Festival. Hugh Lifson will look into an alternate date for the grand opening and presentation of the mural.

Respectfully Submitted,

Guy Booth, Secretary