

MINUTES
OF
MOUNT VERNON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
Saturday, August 2, 2014

The Historic Preservation Commission met on Saturday, August 2, 2014. Commission members present included Leah Rogers, Dick Thomas, Sarah Kelly, Ashley Anthony, Hugh Lifson, Andrew Mlynarczyk, Susan Hargus, Patty Westerkamp, Janet Budack and Guy Booth.

There were two design review applications to be reviewed. The first was presented by Sherry Brayton, owner of Right Frame of Mind at 105 1st St. NW. She has filed an application for construction of a rear deck replacement project. Ms. Brayton presented the schematic drawings for the project, as well as a good description of the material that was to be used. This project is essentially replacing a multi-story deck that had been on the building for a number of years. A motion for approval of a certificate of appropriateness was made by Hugh Lifson and seconded by Janet Budack. The motion passed unanimously.

Joel Miller of Cornell College presented the second design review application. Cornell College will be putting a new roof on Bowman Hall. They will be using an asphalt shingle similar to shingles used on other buildings on the campus. It was noted that Bowman Hall may be the oldest womens dormitory west of the Mississippi River. Joel also indicated that this is a substantial project because the shingles being removed are asbestos shingles. He described the process of removal and the significant expense involved. Upon motion made by Hugh Lifson and seconded by Sarah Kelly, a certificate of no material effect was approved. The motion passed unanimously.

Leah Rogers gave a reminder regarding the preservation summit conference later this month. Members who are attending should sign up for the sessions they will want to attend.

Leah also gave an update on the stop lights that will be erected at 1st St. and 1st Ave. The Iowa Department of Transportation is going to require a mast arm for the lights controlling traffic on Hwy 1. The lights controlling traffic on 1st St. may be traditional pole lights. We will be able to use the same base standard for all of the lights, however.

Hugh Lifson reported that he has made arrangements for the trip to visit LeClair. This is scheduled for September 13. It appears there will be 8 or 9 members that will make the trip, so Hugh will determine the transportation needs as we get closer to the visit date.

Guy Booth mentioned that 7th St. West is going to be torn up and replaced, and that this may have an impact on how accessible homes will be for the porch tour scheduled for September 21. Leah will talk with Ed about whether this should cause a change in the plans, either in the selection of houses, or the date of the porch tour.

Guy Booth reported that the Planning & Zoning Commission had a hearing on the proposed demolition ordinance and have approved the ordinance to be forwarded to the City Council. It is hoped that it would be on the City Council agenda at the end of August. Guy will let people know when it is on the agenda so we can have good representation at that time.

Next meeting is scheduled for September 6, 2014 at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Guy Booth, Secretary