

Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)

February 24, 2020

Meeting Minutes

Present: Stephen G. Schraufnagel, Magge Ericson, Jeff Muse, Joan Haukaas, Allan Smiles and Megan McBride

Absent: Elizabeth Madsen-Genzler

Called to Order: 5:00 P.M. Adjourned 6:00 P.M.

Location: Council Chambers on the main level at the Ashland City Hall

Email Addresses: Joan Haukaas hawk722@charter.net, Allan Smiles ashjewel@cheqnet.net, Stephen G. Schraufnagel stephenschrauf@gmail.com, Magge Ericson magge.e@charter.net, Joe DeRose joe.deros@wisconsinhistory.org, Ashland Daily Press pressnews@ashlanddaily.press.net, Jeff Muse jmuse@nwcep.org, Megan McBride mmcbride@coawi.org, Elizabeth Madsen/Genzler madsen.genzler@gmail.com

Minutes: A motion to approve the December 16, 2019 meeting minutes was made by Jeff Muse and seconded by Magge Ericson. **Motion carried.**

Public Input (five minutes max): No comments at this time.

Old Business

Update on Historic Tax Credit Marketing: Megan McBride gave us an updated report on the marketing of tax credits in our area. Ashland's first commercial Historic Tax Credit application in several years was submitted and approved by Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation for the building at 417 Main Street W. A commercial kitchen is being installed in this building, with the anticipated use being a local pastry shop.

A grant had been submitted for the development of the Fifield Place Historic District. The City will not be notified if they are awarded funds in summer, 2020.

New Business

Certificates of Appropriateness: None at this meeting.

Update on Plaques and their Placement in the Community: For the record, all the plaques and fasteners are now being stored in City Hall. There are about 12 plaques in inventory.

Announcements/Reports/Comments/Questions: The following items were discussed:

1. Megan McBride explained to the commission that the City currently hopes to utilize a portion of its CDBG-CLOSE funds to fund a façade and building improvement grant program for downtown buildings. The City will release a Request for Proposals for projects and will use this to guide maximum project awards and approved projects.
2. The Commission discussed the former Main Street Program, and was updated that the City will be applying in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce to establish a new Main Street Program for the City in 2020.
3. Megan McBride indicated that the COA's Demolition Ordinance will be updated in the near future.

4. Megan McBride will issue a new plaque for her (Magge Ericson) historic house on Fifield Row. A photo will be taken and put in the Ashland Daily Press.
5. Consideration for future Historic Listings in the City of Ashland (COA):
 - a. SOO Line Depot – Megan to check on if they are presently listed.
 - b. St. Andrew's Building (former church)
 - c. Former Hank Martinsen Jr. house on Chapple Avenue (across from Wilmarth Mansion)
 - d. Chapple Avenue Condo buildings – just the former Depot, not any other new buildings on site.
 - e. All area churches should be considered, such as Saron Lutheran, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, etc.
 - f. Elizabeth Franek will be our new member on the HPC committee, after approved by the City Council. She will be the City's representative.

Set Future Meeting Dates: The next HPC meeting is set for May 18, 2020 @ 5:00 P.M. The upcoming meeting dates are as follows:

August 3, 2020 @ 5:00 P.M., in the Council Chambers

October 19, 2020 @ 5:00 P.M., in the Council Chambers

A motion to adjourn this meeting was made by Magge Ericson at 6:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Joan Haukaas. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen G. Schraufnagel, Architect
Chairman of the City of Ashland
Historic Preservation Commission