

**MINUTES
CITY OF AMES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

Date: October 8, 2018	*Kim Hanna, Chairperson	2019
	Peter Hallock	2018
Call to Order: 6:00 PM	Lisa Hovis	2018
	Ted Grevstad-Nordbrock, Vice Chair	2019
Place: Ames City Hall Council Chambers	Edith Hunter	2020
	*Barry Snell	2020
Adjournment: 6:41 PM	*Susan Minks	2021
	[*Absent]	

CALL TO ORDER: Ted Grevstad-Nordbrock, Vice Chairperson, called to order the October 8, 2018 meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION: (Hallock/Hovis) to approve the Agenda for the meeting of October 8, 2018.

MOTION PASSED: (4-0)

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAY 14, 2018:

MOTION: (Hallock/Hunter) to approve the Minutes of the meeting of May 14, 2018.

MOTION PASSED: (4-0)

PUBLIC FORUM: There were no public comments.

DISCUSSION OF PLANS FOR FURTHER REVIEW OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN AND CHAPTER 31, HISTORIC PRESERVATION, OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE

Ray Anderson, Planner, stated that at the last meeting the Commission reviewed the current Historic Preservation Plan and Chapter 31 of the Municipal Code. Some items addressed at that time were updating the HPC website and reaching out to other communities about interest in being designate a historic landmark or being zoned as a historic district. Mr. Anderson was curious if the Commission had any additional goals or objectives for the Historic Preservation Plan.

Ted Grevstad-Nordbrock, Vice-Chair, stated there had been previous discussion of updating the Commission's webpage to be similar to that of the City of Dubuque. This would be in terms of design, structure, and information presented to the public. He also noted the possibility of adding a list of do's and don'ts for those who reside within the district. This could help articulate the Commission's goals and expectation to those who live within the Historic Preservation District. He believed having a better presentation of the design guidelines for the Historic Preservation District could benefit the residence in their future projects.

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock added that it also may be a good idea to check the National Registration list on the City's website. He believed it to be updated, but it may be missing a property. Mr. Anderson presented a copy of the list currently posted and noted that there was one missing property. The Masonic Temple located between 5th and Douglas needed to be added to the list.

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock and Mr. Anderson discussed the photos and information currently posted on the City's website. Lisa Hovis agreed that more information about the properties would be beneficial.

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock asked if Mr. Anderson recommended having a special meeting to review Chapter 31 of the Municipal Code. Mr. Anderson said it had been four years since the last changes were adopted. He suggested breaking it up into sections over the course of three meetings beginning in January. The Commission concurred.

Mr. Anderson stated he will look into the process on getting more information and studies on the City's website. He added he will review the City of Dubuque's website and see what they could emulate.

COMMISSION COMMENTS: Ms. Hovis discussed some of the ideas she had come up with after attending the Preserve Iowa Summit in regards to community outreach. These included providing more expert-ran workshops, home owner fairs, having a Facebook presence and preservation rehabbers club, and making sure realtors are providing information about the Historic District and its requirements. Ms. Hovis would like to provide more information to the community and receive more feedback.

Peter Hallock added that if the City cannot officially create a Facebook page for the Commission, perhaps one individual member could create a rehabber's club. Mr. Anderson said he was uncertain, but felt the City would probably want Commission posts to come through the website and not through a third party.

Mr. Hallock gave an example of how the Ames Historical Society had a proposal to create a 'Lost Ames' Facebook page. The board decided against it, but a few board members created it privately and all members contribute to it. This allows the page to exist, but not as an official statement from the society itself.

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock asked about the definition of a rehabber's club. Ms. Hovis described it as a group for those with a common interest in refurbishing homes. It allows them to share their ideas and information. Mr. Hallock said it would most likely not be limited to the Historic District. Mr. Anderson stated he believes there is a rehabber's club in Des Moines and suggested bringing someone in from it to speak to the Commission.

Mr. Hallock asked if it were possible for Staff to provide a monthly report of what sort of work is being approved by the City within the district. He felt a report of what is going on would benefit the Commission to help guide the development of the district and keep things consistent. Mr. Anderson stated he could create a report for the Commission.

Ms. Hovis discussed an issue with a property on Duff Avenue in regards shrubbery that is not in compliance. She recalled that the Commission gave some leeway last year due to financial reasons. Since nothing has improved, she was curious if the City or Iowa State University could assist, perhaps as a student project, to help the property be in compliance. Mr. Anderson stated he would look into the issue.

Mr. Hallock stated his neighbor wanted to present at a Commission meeting and asked for an update. Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock stated he has been talking with them, but nothing official has been set.

STAFF COMMENTS: Mr. Anderson stated that the next regularly scheduled Commission meeting is on Veteran's Day and would be rescheduled. Staff will inform the Commission on the next scheduled meeting.

Mr. Anderson mentioned that Kim Hannah has resigned from the Commission due to relocating for a new job.

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock commended Ms. Hannah for all her hard work and years of service serving the Commission and the City.

Commission wishes her all the best in the future.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

MOTION: (Hallock/Hovis) to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION PASSED: (4-0)

The meeting adjourned at 6:26 PM.

Ted Grevstad-Nordbrock, Vice-Chairperson
Historic Preservation Commission

Ben Lievens, Recording Secretary
Department of Planning & Housing