

**MINUTES
CITY OF AMES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

Date: October 12, 2020	Peter Hallock, Chairperson	2021
	Ted Grevstad-Nordbrock, Vice-Chair	2022
Call to Order: 6:00PM	Lisa Hovis	2021
Place: Zoom Meeting	Edith Hunter	2020
	Barry Snell	2020
Adjournment: 7:01PM.	Susan Minks	2021

[*Absent]

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic this meeting was held electronically

CALL TO ORDER: Peter Hallock, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION: (Hovis/Minks) to approve the Agenda for the meeting of October 12, 2020.

MOTION PASSED: (6-0)

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2020:

MOTION: (Hunter/Hovis) to approve the Minutes of the meeting of September 14, 2020.

MOTION PASSED: (6-0)

PUBLIC FORUM: There were no public comments.

**CONSIDER REVISIONS TO GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTION STEPS IN THE AMES
COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN**

Mr. Hallock said he received a copy of the summary of what has been compiled over the last few months, which also included staff suggestions.

Mr. Ray Anderson, Planner, and staff liaison to the Commission, began by saying the report provided to the Commission includes suggestions by staff. The Commission needs to determine which changes they agree or disagree with. In answer to a question from the Commission at the previous Commission meeting, Mr. Anderson stated that there is not a Neighborhood Summit conducted on an annual basis.

Mr. Hallock asked Commission members if they would like the Ames Comprehensive Preservation Plan to state that a summit will occur every year or once every 5 years. He believes that it may not be necessary to conduct a neighborhood summit to discuss historic preservation on an annual basis.

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock said he thought having once every year was excessive and once every couple of years would be sufficient.

Lisa Hovis, Commission Member, asked if there would be an event the Commission can tie into, so that it is an event people would look forward to and attend.

Mr. Hallock suggested they work with what Ms. Hovis suggested and the Commission could always make a change later if needed.

Susan Minks, Commission Member, asked if they can tie the Summit into an event on Main Street or possibly a fair.

Mr. Hallock suggested they would change the wording to say, "at minimum every 5 years", instead of each year.

Mr. Anderson discussed Goal 1 under Objective B which addresses clarification of the types of Historic Preservation designations.

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock said that clarifying the designations was warranted and said anything they can do to clarify that would be good. The other Commission members agreed.

Mr. Anderson went on to discuss Goal 2 under Objective A. He said the Commission had previously discussed noting that the action step was accomplished but that it could change from year to year depending on funding.

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock commented that having the Historic Preservation Commission fund a local Historical Society seemed uncommon. He asked what the Commission would get out of such an agreement.

Mr. Anderson said the Council would be funding it rather than the Commission. Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock asked if they do provide funding, could they attach expectations to help what they do as a Commission.

Mr. Anderson said it is up to the City Council, but the Historic Preservation Commission would need to make their expectations known to the City Council.

Mr. Hallock said they could recommend that one of the funding criteria be some measure related to Historic Preservation.

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock commented that it would be a good idea if the Commission held a seminar on how to research your historic business or home.

Mr. Hallock said he thought it would be appropriate to have some performance measure related to Historic Preservation and asked what the other members thought.

Ms. Minks asked if there would be another place where the Plan would talk about partnership with the Ames Historical Museum.

Mr. Hallock said they added them to groups to coordinate with.

Ms. Minks said if they have a partnership with a group, they will have a stronger buy in and be able to attract members. She asked the Commission if they thought there was a strong enough connection currently.

Mr. Ted Grevstad-Nordbrock commented he was having trouble figuring out how they would include it in the Plan without being too ambiguous or specific. He suggested they try and find some overlap in what the Museum does and what the Commission does. He said much of what the museum does is not related to what the Commission does.

Mr. Hallock asked if the Commission wanted to add language there.

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock asked if the brochures for walking tours were used. It is his sense that some people may prefer a digital brochure for the walking tour. He said a digital brochure could be updated quickly.

Mr. Anderson said they can reference having a digital format as well.

Mr. Hallock said the wording seemed vague.

Mr. Anderson asked how the Commission would like to proceed.

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock said he thought the language of funding a full-time staff is too specific, and the action step should be open ended and not included hiring anyone. He said he thought it should say, "finances to fund the museum."

Mr. Hallock said he thought the wording staff came up with works better than what was there. He said he would be in support of that.

Mr. Hallock said the next staff comment is a suggestion to delete the items that have been accomplished in the Plan. Mr. Hallock said he was concerned that some things that have been accomplished may need to be ongoing.

Mr. Anderson said researching property value changes in Old Town would be a major study beyond what staff would recommend.

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock said he thought there are enough municipal level studies out there or statewide that they could use that would be cheaper. He would recommend that reference to having a study of the change of property values in historic districts should be omitted and Objective D should be deleted.

Mr. Anderson discussed Goal 2 under Objective C, which was regarding Cultural Landscapes terminology. He also discussed Goal 3, Objective A and mentioned the 4th action step. He said the purpose is to link older neighborhoods to new neighborhoods.

Mr. Hallock asked if that was one neighborhood mentoring another. He said he was not sure on what the intent was.

Mr. Anderson asked how the Commission would like to word that action step.

Mr. Hallock said he would like the wording to assure that Historic Preservation is recognized as a legitimate part of existing policy.

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock said he wanted to re-visit key neighborhoods that had surveys done. He wondered how much value that would have to the average person. The shortcoming is lack of survey data in the City's GIS network. The Commission could talk about integrating data into GIS and asked if that is a possibility?

Mr. Anderson said he thought that was a possibility and he would have to talk to the GIS coordinator to see if the surveys could be added as layer.

Mr. Anderson moved on to Goal 4, Objective C and discussed the third action step. The staff comment was to leave the current language as it is. Planning staff concurs that the City of Ames role was to provide information rather than to promote it. The Commission members agreed.

Mr. Anderson discussed Goal 6. The staff suggestion is to leave the wording regarding Historic Preservation and Heritage Tourism.

Mr. Anderson asked if there were any other goals or action steps the Commission would like to discuss.

Mr. Hallock said he would like to go back to the GIS step they were discussing. He said he thought the suggestion was to replace the language entirely. He suggested adding an additional action step following which detailed their recommendation regarding GIS data.

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock suggested they omit the second action step under Goal 3.

Mr. Hallock asked if, based on those changes, there was a motion to proceed with the recommendations of Alternative #1 as suggested, adding in changes the Commission made to staff suggestions.

MOTION: (Minks/ Grevstad-Nordbrock) to move Alternative #1

MOTION PASSED: (6-0)

COMMISSION COMMENTS:

Mr. Hallock asked if the Historic Preservation Commission Recommendation to City Council requires a presentation to City Council.

Mr. Anderson will inform the Commission of a date for a presentation to the City Council.

STAFF COMMENTS:

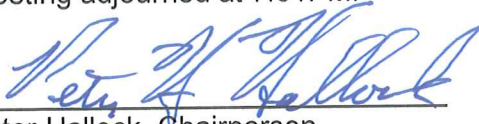
No comments

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

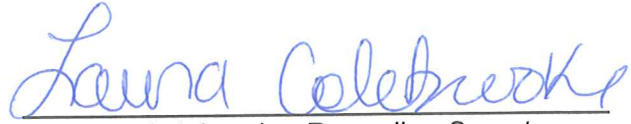
MOTION: (Hovis/Hunter) to adjourn the meeting at 7:01PM.

MOTION PASSED: (6-0)

The meeting adjourned at 7:01PM.



Peter Hallock, Chairperson
Historic Preservation Commission



Laura Colebrooke, Recording Secretary
Department of Planning & Housing