

**MINUTES  
CITY OF AMES  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

Date: February 08, 2021	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: 6:41PM.	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: (Grevstad-Nordbrock/Hunter) to approve the Agenda for the meeting of February 08, 2021.

*MOTION PASSED: (5-0)*

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 12, 2020:

MOTION: (Hunter/Minks) to approve the Minutes of the meeting of October 12, 2020.

*MOTION PASSED: (5-0)*

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PUBLIC FORUM: There were no public comments.

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**DISCUSS THE 2020 CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT (CLG) ANNUAL REPORT**

Ray Anderson, City Planner, and liaison to the Commission, began by saying in the Packet that was sent out, there was a Memo that had questions pertaining to the "Work Program" that the Commission approved for 2020 as well as the one proposed for the calendar year 2021. Mr. Anderson pointed out that the draft of answers to the questions are in bold type. Mr. Anderson clarified that the report covers a "calendar year" but includes portions of two "fiscal year" budgets that were combined to get the numbers presented for the Ames History Museum.

Mr. Anderson highlighted portions of the report displayed on the screen. He noted that the Historic Preservation Commission would be meeting with City Council on February 23<sup>rd</sup> to go over the proposed changes to the Ames Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan.

Mr. Anderson stated that nominations for the 2020 Annual Historic Preservation Awards Program had been received and the winners had been chosen. He said due to the Pandemic, the awards would not be given in person, but the winners had been notified. He also noted

which members of the Commission attended the Virtual 2020 Preservation Iowa Summit that took place in June of 2020.

Edith Hunter, Commission Member, commented that her name should be taken off the list of attendees at the Summit since she had registered, but was unable to attend due to an illness.

Mr. Anderson went on to discuss a few of the successes that had been documented in the report. He said successes included funding continuing to be provided by the City of Ames for the Ames History Museum, funding for Historic Preservation activities, issuance of seven Certificates of Appropriateness, and updating of the Ames Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan's Goals, Objectives, and Action Steps.

Mr. Anderson noted that the Pandemic had caused numerous challenges and restrictions regarding education and involvement of the public.

He discussed the 2020 Work Plan and a new self-assessment that had been introduced as a new requirement in the CLG Annual Report. He summarized criteria for the assessment, as well as what the Commission had accomplished in 2020.

Ted Grevstad-Nordbrock asked if anyone has used the Tax Credit program for downtown Ames.

Mr. Anderson said he was not aware of any property owners having utilized the State or Federal Tax Credit Program, other than Avec Design.

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock commented he thought it would be beneficial to get someone who has used the Tax Credit downtown to promote them to the public. He suggested inviting someone to speak at one of the upcoming Historic Preservation Commission Meetings.

Mr. Anderson went on to highlight a few of the other things the Commission had accomplished in 2020.

Mr. Hallock commented that they had not reviewed Chapter 31 in 2020, nor had any text amendments been proposed by the Commission. It was noted that the Commission would need to continue the review of Chapter 31 for any potential changes that may be needed.

Mr. Anderson said the Commission would need to submit a "2021 Work Plan" as part of the 2020 Annual CLG Report. He suggested they incorporate some of the items from the "2020 Work Plan." Mr. Hallock commented that the Preserve Iowa Summit for 2021 Would be June 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Anderson said that was correct and noted the Summit would be held virtually again this year due to the Pandemic. Mr. Anderson suggested the Commission could continue with things they had been doing such as issuing Certificates of Appropriateness, presenting awards for the Historic Preservation Commission Annual Awards Program, recognizing May as "Historic Preservation Month" and seeking guest speakers to provide topics of interest at Historic Preservation Commission meetings, as appropriate.

Mr. Anderson said the 2020 Annual Certified Local Government Annual Report would be presented to City Council on February 23, 2021 for their review and approval. He said the Annual Report would then be sent to the State Historic Preservation Office in Des Moines.

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COMMISSION COMMENTS:

Mr. Hallock asked if they could try to schedule a representative from Avec Design to speak to the Commission on using the State and/or Federal Tax Credit Program. He suggested seeing if they could schedule a presentation for April.

Mr. Hallock asked if the Downtown Signage had gone through the Budget process.

Mr. Anderson said the City Council is in the annual budget preparation process, and we should know soon if the Downtown Signage project would be funded for the next fiscal year.

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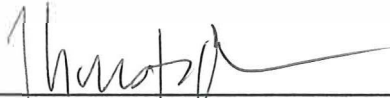
STAFF COMMENTS:

Mr. Anderson said that the City Council would be considering proposed amendments to the Ames Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan at the February 23, 2021 meeting. It would be very helpful to have Mr. Hallock (as Chairperson of the Commission), as well as one or two other Commission Members to answer any questions the City Council may have.

Mr. Hallock, Mr. Gravstad-Nordbrock, and Ms. Hunter all agreed to participate in the discussion at the City Council meeting on February 23, 2021.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Mr. Hallock adjourned the meeting at 6:41PM.



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Ted Gravstad-Nordbrock, Vice-Chair  
Historic Preservation Commission



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Laura Colebrooke, Recording Secretary  
Department of Planning & Housing