

**MINUTES
CITY OF AMES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

Date: May 10, 2021	Ted Grevstad-Nordbrock	2022
	Edith Hunter	2023
Call to Order: 6:13PM	Barry Snell *	2023
Place: Zoom Meeting	Susan Minks	2024
	Angie Kolz	2024
Adjournment: 7:37PM.	Mary Jo Winder	2024
	Matt Oakley *	2023

[*Absent]

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

CALL TO ORDER: Ted Grevstad-Nordbrock called the meeting to order at 6:13 PM.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Ted Grevstad-Nordbrock proposed the Commission move the Election of Officers up to precede the Public Forum.

MOTION: (Minks/Hunter) to approve the Agenda for the meeting of May 10, 2021, with the change of moving the Election of Officers to precede the Public Forum.

MOTION PASSED: (5-0)

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MARCH 08, 2021:

Edith Hunter, Commission Member, inquired as to if the term expiration dates shown on the minutes for her and Mr. Snell were correct. Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock asked the Recording Secretary to investigate the matter and report back to the Commission what the correct term dates were.

MOTION: (Hunter/Winder) to approve the Minutes of the meeting of March 08, 2021.

MOTION PASSED: (5-0)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock, Vice-Chair, asked Eloise Sahlstrom, City Planner, how to proceed with the Election of Officers. Ms. Sahlstrom stated that Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock would ask for nominations for the positions of Commission Chair and Commission Vice-Chair. She said the Commission Members would then vote on the nominations.

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock asked if anyone would like to nominate someone for the position of Chair. Ms. Hunter said she would like to nominate Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock.

MOTION: (Minks/Kolz) to elect Ted Grevstad-Nordbrock to be the Chair of the Historic Preservation Commission.

MOTION PASSED: (5-0)

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock asked if anyone would like to nominate someone for the position of Vice-Chair. Susan Minks nominated Edith Hunter for the position of Vice-Chair.

MOTION: (Grevstad-Nordbrock/Winder) to elect Edith Hunter be the Vice-Chair of the Historic Preservation Commission.

MOTION PASSED: (5-0)

PUBLIC FORUM: There were no public comments.

DISCUSSION OF AWARD CATEGORIES FOR THE ANNUAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARD PROGRAM

Ms. Sahlstrom said the Memo sent to the Commission Members gave a synopsis on the history of the award program. She said the program began in 1990 and has been in place for a long time. She stated that in 2010 or 2011 the categories were changed, and the award program was enhanced so that it recognized significant efforts rather than a broader array of activity. She said previously many people had been recognized but it was for things that were more short-term in nature or maintenance and repair oriented and not a significant upgrade or re-habilitation of a structure.

She stated that at the last meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission there was discussion of looking at the categories of the Awards Program and how they are described to see if there are any changes that should be made. Ms. Sahlstrom stated that the National Park Service Categories included a few different treatment approaches. She said the approaches were Restoration, Preservation, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction.

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock said that quite awhile ago the Commission discussed how similar the Award Categories seemed and that they are based on the Secretary of the Interior's Treatment Standards. He went on to say he thought the discussion stemmed from a concern that several of the categories overlapped, and that they didn't see distinct examples of the various types of Treatments done in a city the size of Ames. Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock said he recalled the Commission wanted to discuss possibly dissolving a few of the categories if they were not being used. He asked the Commission if that was what they recalled as well.

Ms. Hunter said she agreed and that she recalled the Commission had struggled as to what category would best fit the nominated projects. She said the categories were not precisely defined and it was not easy to determine which category was the most appropriate.

Ms. Minks said she thought there was quite a bit of overlap in the ward categories. She said there did not appear to be a clear distinction for each category.

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock said regarding Preservation, the terms mean specific things. He said he felt that the terms had become confusing regarding what the Historic Preservation Commission

does. He said he would suggest possibly removing the category of Preservation since the other award categories would be able to cover that area.

Mary Jo Winder, Commission Member, stated that she thought the Historic Preservation award category was redundant.

Further discussion ensued on streamlining the Awards Categories.

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock suggested the Commission table this item until the next meeting to allow for further discussion. The other Commission members agreed.

DISCUSSION OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION WORK PLAN FOR 2021

Ms. Sahlstrom stated that the Work Plan was put together as part of the Annual Certified Local Government Report and was included in the Memo sent to Commission Members. Ms. Sahlstrom said the Commission needed to look at what their priorities are for this year and what they would like to accomplish specifically.

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock said the Commission needed to discuss what they would like to do in the next year. He asked if any of the other members had thoughts they wanted to share.

Ms. Winder asked if regarding Grant Funding from CLG Grants if staff have applied for any grants recently.

Ms. Sahlstrom said she did not have a good perspective on that. She said Ray Anderson, City Planner who was absent, would have more information regarding Ms. Winder's question. She said she did know that recently they had not received any CLG Grants.

Ms. Winder said she would like to explore the possibility of the Commission putting together a Grant Application within the next cycle. Ms. Winder said she would volunteer to write a grant as she had experience writing CLG grants in the past.

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock said he would agree with Ms. Winder. He went on to say he thought it should be a priority to resurvey the neighborhoods, which a grant would assist with.

Further discussion ensued on having new historic surveys done within Ames. Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock said he would propose looking at the William Page documents at the next meeting and start prioritizing neighborhoods for surveying and identify a goal for a grant. He also mentioned that more than a year ago the Commission discussed having a Tax Credit professional meet downtown with business owners to promote utilizing the State and Local Tax Credit. Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock suggested looking into the suggestions that had been made and discussing them further at a future meeting. The other Commission Members agreed.

ANNUAL REVIEW OF BYLAWS

Ms. Sahlstrom said the Bylaws are reviewed every year to get acquainted with them as well as to see if there are any improvements that could be made. She said she would be happy to answer any questions about them as well.

Ms. Winder asked when the last time the Historic Preservation Ordinance was reviewed. Ms. Sahlstrom said she recalled they started reviewing it a few years prior but did not get far in the process. She said the Commission ended up focusing more on the Preservation Plan. Ms. Winder suggested the Commission review the Ordinance again. She said she would look at it and would suggest a future meeting as to how to approach a review as a Commission.

DISCUSS TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMISSION MEMBERS

Ms. Sahlstrom said the Preserve Iowa Summit will take place June 3rd through June 5th. She said the Summit will be virtual and is inexpensive to attend since the City pays for it. Ms. Sahlstrom said she thought it would be worthwhile for Commission Members to attend even if they could only attend part of it. She said if anyone is interested to let her know and she would get them registered.

COMMISSION COMMENTS:

Mr. Grevstad-Nordbrock asked that the Commission Members introduce themselves since there were new members this year.

STAFF COMMENTS:

Ms. Sahlstrom asked if the three new members would look at their availability for orientation and let Ray Anderson know what times would work for them to meet.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

MOTION: (Minks/Winder) to adjourn the meeting at 7:37PM.

MOTION PASSED: (5-0)

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 PM.



Ted Grevstad-Nordbrock, Chairperson
Historic Preservation Commission



Laura Colebrooke, Recording Secretary
Department of Planning & Housing