

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING

AUGUST 13TH, 2020

PRESENT:

City Liaison: Frances Leong Sharp

Members: Chair Vini Luisi, Vice-Chair Carl Krave, Berni Fensterwald, Deborah Scott

Guests: Commissioner Deborah Kynes, Toby Burwick, John Kloster, Cherisse Ponraj

Visitors introduced themselves prior to the meeting being called to order by Vini Luisi at 4.03pm.

Vini made a motion to approve minutes from July 9th meeting. Carl moved to approve seconded by Berni. Unanimous approval.

Commissioner Kynes was requested for a City update:

227 Aberdeen St, the 1920's Marge Armston Dimmit residence, is owned by the City and heading to auction. Vini proposed discussing with the City whether the property should be 'sold for rehabilitation' and preserved.

There followed clarification from Joseph Dipasqua regarding historically designated homes within flood zones and FEMA regulations and variances.

Vinie requested that the committee be allowed to view the property which appears to be in substantial disrepair. Frances will email suggested dates for a curb-side viewing to the committee members.

Commissioner Kynes requested that the 1921 bungalow located on the south eastern side of Weaver Park, owned by the city and currently leased to DFAC, be granted a historical designation. Frances will complete the application to be presented to the committee at the September meeting.

New business:

Vini discussed the Old Feed Store on Honey Lane and Railroad Avenue, currently owned by Xavier and Tina Avila. The building was originally a feed store and later an antique market. The building has been remodeled over the years into multiple smaller rooms, has had many alterations and subsequently roof leaks leading to rotten wood throughout.

The property is deemed beyond repair and unsalvageable but its location has historical significance so upon consideration by the committee a motion to designate the site with a historical marker from the County was made by Bernie, seconded by Carl and approved unanimously.

The previous applications for historic designations that have been reviewed and approved should receive their plaques at the October City Commission meeting. Frances will order the plaques.

Old business:

Commissioner Kynes has been advised by Bill Baker, friend of the owner, that there is a prospective buyer for the Kellogg Mansion. The property is not yet under contract though. Discussion ensued regarding requesting the buyer pay to relocate the building to a City location, preferably the City owned Stirling Park at Palm Avenue. This option will be presented to the buyer as a viable alternative to a demolition. An anonymous benefactor had discussed previously with Vini assisting with this project and they may be approached to help defray the costs of situating the building. The donors would potentially be recognized at the site for their civic contributions.

Commissioner Kynes raised again the topic of creating an inventory of historic structures within the City. Carl reminded the committee that some potentially vulnerable areas of the City had already been allocated to individual members to inventory. Question arose as to what members should do with the inventories they had already created as due to covid 19 there has been no 'in person' meeting

at which to share this information. Carl had created a comprehensive slide show in March to share with the committee clarifying concerns regarding vulnerable neighborhoods. A request was made that Frances make the slide show available for public viewing on the City website via the Historic Preservation link.

Francis will make available individual spread sheets for members to upload the information already gathered on the designated areas within the City.

Carl requested a meeting with City Attorney, Tom Trask, to determine an effective and 'legal' means for the survey information to best be amalgamated. Commissioner Kynes will facilitate the meeting.

A discussion potential new committee members who had attended as guests was had.

A vote was taken to elect members:

Cherisse Ponraj nominated as a permanent member

Toby Burwich as an alternate member

John Kloster as an alternate member

Carl made a motion to accept these appointments, seconded by Bernie. Motion was carried unanimously.

Vini made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Bernie.

Meeting adjourned at 5.50 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Deborah Scott, Secretary.

