

Historic Preservation Commission
City of Charleston
City Council Chambers
520 Jackson Avenue
Charleston, Illinois
February 19, 2016
8:00 a.m.

MINUTES

1. Call to order. Meeting called to order at 8:08am.
2. Roll Call. Commissioners present: Erin Blitz, Merry Lichtenberger, Elisa Roberts, Bob Bertrand, Kit Morice.
3. Introduction of Guests. Present: Steve Pamperin, Alex Winkler.
4. Approval of January 15, 2016 Minutes. Held over to the March meeting.

Old Business

1. City Planner/Inspector Report. Steve reported the next round of TIF projects has a late February deadline. Proposals will be reviewed in March, with most projects starting in May.

766 6th Street—south wall of the house’s foundation failed and emergency repairs are needed. Extent of repair/reconstruction is large, but code does not recognize brick as a suitable material; concrete block is code. Discussion ensued about the best solution for such repairs moving forward.

2. Grant Projects Update. No report.
3. Will Rogers Theatre. Legal action for foreclosure further delayed to March 10th. Some repairs have been made by the bank to parts of the façade and roof.
4. Exchange Club Tour/Event on May 21st. “Mass start” of bicyclists at 8:00am on the square with 5, 10 and 40 mile routes. Discussed doing tours of square Bob asked about emergency personnel on hand; Deborah answered that paramedics, etc. will be notified. There will be partial street closures around the square and possibly some vendors and music.

New Business

5. Jean Follett – Strategic Plan Workshops for Landmarks Illinois. Since no one from the HPC can attend other workshop dates, one has been scheduled in Charleston for Monday, April 18, 4-6pm at the Charleston Carnegie Library. The City will provide refreshments. Discussed room set-up in Rotary Room B. Erin suggested that Steve and Alex also attend; Deborah answered it is already on their calendars.

6. Small Business Revolution Contest. Elisa submitted her 499-word essay. Finalists for the 500,000.00 “make-over” will go to an online vote for the winner during National Small Business Week, May 1-7. If Charleston makes the finalists, we need to get out the word for people to vote!
7. Meeting ended with a brief discussion about a field trip to Springfield to tour the FLW Dana Thomas House, for which Merry is a docent.
8. Meeting adjourned by Erin’s proclamation at 9:03am.

Next meeting will be March 11, 2016

Respectfully submitted by Kit Morice

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS, PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

This portion of the Historic Preservation Commission meeting is reserved for anyone wishing to address the Commission. The Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/1) mandates NO action shall be taken on matters not listed on this agenda, but the Commission may direct staff to address the topic or refer the matter for action on a subsequent agenda. Please provide the secretary with name & address; speak into microphone; limit presentation to 3 minutes; and avoid repetitious comments. Thank you.