

**Historic Preservation Commission**  
**City of Charleston**  
City Council Chambers  
520 Jackson Avenue  
Charleston, Illinois  
June 17, 2016, 8:00 a.m.  
**MEETING MINUTES**

1. Meeting was called to order by Chair Bob Bertrand at 8:03am
2. Members present: Bob Bertrand, Erin Blitz, Gary Henigman, Merry Lichtenberger, Blair Lord, Kit Morice, Elisa Roberts, Matt Madigan
3. Guests present: City Clerk Deborah Muller, City Code Official Alex Winkler
4. Erin made the motion to approve the minutes from the May 20, 2016 meeting; Blair seconded, approved by acclamation

**Old Business**

1. City Planner/Inspector Report

Alex reported that the foundation repair to the south wall of 766 6<sup>th</sup> Street has been completed and will be painted to blend with the existing brick foundation.

The City has been checking (rental) properties on 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Streets for general condition/clean-up. Elisa asked if Alex knew how many properties within the HD were in foreclosure proceedings. There was a brief discussion about having a city court to handle City Code violations.

A possible sale is pending for the city-owned building at 513 7<sup>th</sup> Street on the east side of the square.

Alex mentioned other commercial property project around town.

2. HPC Booth at Exchange Club Bicycle Race – Morning of May 21

HPC members felt the table at the event was worth the effort; the event did increase activity around the square. Organizers are planning for a bigger event next year with vendors and more families participating.

3. Grant Projects Update

No report.

4. CASA House Tours

5. Will Rogers Theatre Update

Foreclosure hearing on June 7: no decision, process will likely take at least another three months. It was noted the longer the building sits empty the more it will deteriorate.

The business plan is coming together and the 501 C-3 paperwork has been submitted.

**New Business**

1. Realtor Training

Gary contacted Landmarks Illinois and is waiting to hear back from them. He would like to invite them to present the workshop; it may be better received by the local realtor community if it comes from them rather than the HPC. Discussion ensued about how the HPC could organize and fund such an event. The discussion then turned back to concerns about properties within the 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Streets HD that are in various states of disrepair.

**Meeting Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kit Morice, Secretary