

Historic Preservation Commission
City of Charleston
City Council Chambers
520 Jackson Avenue
Charleston, Illinois
September 16, 2016
8:00 a.m.

MEETING MINUTES

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair Bob Bertrand at 8:06am.
2. Commissioners present were Bob Bertrand, Gary Henigman, Merry Lichtenberger, Matt Madigan, Kit Morice and Elisa Roberts. Also present were City Clerk Deborah Muller and City Planner Steve Pamperin.
3. Guest Jeff Knezovich was also in attendance.
4. Gary made the motion to accept the August 19 meeting minutes and Merry seconded; minutes approved unanimously.

Old & New Business

1. Steve Pamperin reported on this year's TIF projects, which are moving along slowly.
2. Guest Jeff Knezovich's presentation was moved up from New Business to after Steve's report. He explained to the HPC the need for a rear addition to the Sigma Pi Fraternity House on 6th Street, which is in the 6th & 7th Streets Historic District, as well as foundation repairs and the installation of a sprinkler system. He presented a series of drawings and explanations for the changes. He is seeking guidance from the HPC in advance of submitting final plans to the City and to the HPC for a Certificate of Appropriateness. The plans call for a large rear addition with a poured foundation that would be faced with brick to complement the existing brick foundation. Also discussed was removing the two-story columns added in the 1950s after the original porch was removed; the plans called for rebuilding the porch to its original appearance from the 1890s when the house was built. Steve noted the final plans would need to be reviewed by his office to ensure it met setbacks, etc., before they are forwarded to the HPC with an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness.
2. Grant Projects Update: no report.
3. Will Rogers Theatre Update--brief review of Will-Stock (August 20, 2016 at Kiwanis Park Amphitheater). Matt and Gary reported that Will-Stock was close to breaking even with a net loss of \$13.00. However, the event expanded the presence of the group's efforts to acquire and rehabilitate the theatre in the community and garnered much publicity.

Regarding court proceedings in the foreclosure case, the phone conference that was to take place on June 30 did not happen but no explanation was given.

4. Gary has been contacting folks about holding a training opportunity for area realtors. There will be a new person heading the Central Illinois realtors' group, Paul Brown; he will take this position after the first of the year. The HPC will need to check on possible dates for this event and will coordinate with Landmarks Illinois.
5. Kit did not have any news regarding historic reference materials housed at Charleston Carnegie Public Library. Elisa noted it would be an asset to the community if a Charleston city museum could be established on or near the square. Merry then mentioned the National trust's "This Place Matters" program.
6. Elisa expressed concern about the condition and fate of the Halsey Round Barn on South Route 130. It is out of the City Limits and therefor cannot be locally landmarked. Unfortunately, there aren't any grants administered by the IHPA that might assist with repairs. Kit suggested reaching out the Illinois Barn Alliance.

Meeting Adjournment: Elisa made the motion to adjourn, Gary seconded; meeting adjourned at 8:57am.

Respectfully submitted,

Kit Morice, Secretary

Next Meeting: November 18