

CITY OF OSKALOOSA
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
June 19, 2020

A regularly-scheduled meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) for the City of Oskaloosa was called to order at 12:01 p.m. on Friday, June 19, 2020 by Chairperson, Mark Tennison. The commission met via electronic meeting to restrict physical access in accordance with the March 2020 Iowa Public Health Emergency Proclamation signed by Governor Kim Reynolds.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Tennison, Janel Campbell, Cheryl Lockwood, Cheryl Benson, Eric Stout, & Scott Stefanc

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: Ross Knobbe

CITY STAFF PRESENT: Mike Flahive and Shawn Christ

OTHERS PRESENT: Jesse Johnston, Rod Curtis, Brad Grefe

Minutes from February 28, 2020 meeting.

It was moved by Campbell, seconded by Stout, to approve the February 28, 2020 Historic Preservation Commission minutes. All Ayes, motion carried unanimously.

Citizens to be Heard

None

New Business

Consider an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness for 105 High Ave West – Betsy's Boutique Shop.

Jesse and Katie Johnston, owners of Betsy's Boutique shop, have applied for a COA to paint the lower portion of the façade, install new exterior lighting, and install a new sign with new trim on the front of the building at 105 High Avenue West. The sign is 3'x14' in dimension with a light sandstone background with dark bronzetone lettering and border. The sign will be attached to an existing frame on the building. The three light fixtures to be installed are an antique style with bronze coloring that will similarly match existing light fixtures in the downtown historic district. The lower portion of the façade will be painted with the same dark bronzetone color.

It was moved by Stefanc, seconded by Lockwood, to approve the application as submitted. All Ayes, motion carried unanimously.

Review preliminary drawings for the Downtown Façade Improvement Project Phase 3

Shawn Christ reported the city will again pursue a \$500,000 CDBG grant for a third phase of the downtown Façade Improvement Project. If funded, this phase will be located south of the

square and potentially include 8 properties/11 facades: 102 1st Ave E, 110 1st Ave E, 112 1st Ave E, 114 1st Ave E, 116 1st Ave E, 118 1st Ave E, 214 S. Market St, and 216 S. Market St. All properties are located within the downtown historic district and the city is currently securing commitments from property owners. Architect Rod Curtis reviewed the preliminary drawings and answered questions with assistance from Brad Grefe, grant consultant. If the grant is funded, final design work will commence and an application for Certificate of Appropriateness will be submitted later this year.

It was moved by Lockwood, seconded by Benson, to prepare a letter of support and to state appreciation for the opportunity to review plans prior to the grant. All Ayes, motion carried unanimously.

Update on training and CLG work plan

Mike Flahive reviewed the commission's work plan for 2020. Although COVID-19 has slowed efforts and opportunities, the commission is meeting its training requirements. Cheryl Benson attended the virtual Preserve Iowa Summit, and Scott Stefanc and Mike Flahive attended a lunch-and-learn on window glazing. Janel Campbell is leading the effort for historical signs for the Paradise Block District. Janel will email examples from Savannah and Charleston. The group discussed vendors, language, style, and placement. Scott Stefanc will research and provide resources for landscaping and decorative ideas. Cheryl Lockwood said the Golden Goose club may be a funding source by providing matching funds.

The work plan also includes digitization of important HPC documents. This will be postponed due to the pandemic.

Cheryl Lockwood left the meeting at 12:47 pm.

Miscellaneous Business

None

With no further business it was moved by Campbell, seconded by Stout, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 12:49 p.m.

Minutes by Shawn Christ