

**Minutes**  
**Historic Resources Board**  
**Conduff Conference Room, City Hall**  
**1101 Poyntz Avenue**  
**March 24, 2008**  
**4:00 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Tom Roberts, Chair; Mike Mecseri, Vice Chair; Ray Weisenburger; Elaine Mohr; Bonnie Lynn-Sherow; Jean Hill.

**Members Absent:** Tracy Anderson.

**Others Present:** Richard Mertz; Scott Kulp.

**Staff Present:** Cam Moeller, Planner.

**1. Consider the minutes of the February 25, 2008 Historic Resources Board meeting.**

Mohr moved that the Board approve the minutes, with modifications. Lynn-Sherow seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 6-0.

**2. ENVIRONS REVIEW**

**Sign Permit, Manhattan Appliance, 302 S. 4<sup>th</sup> Street (within environs of Downtown Historic District and Lyda-Jean Apartments).**

The Board was presented with new design alternatives for the proposed sign, which attempted to address the issues raised by the Board when the sign was reviewed previously at the February 25, 2005 meeting. Richard Mertz, Manhattan Appliance, indicated one design to be their preferred alternative.

City Staff indicated that the preferred design includes lettering and graphics on three faces of the awning sign while the zoning regulations only allow for lettering and graphics on two faces. Staff noted that the applicant has the option of going before the Board of Zoning appeals if they want to pursue that option.

Weisenburger said he has no problems with there being lettering and graphics on three faces of the awning sign and said that is a zoning issue. Weisenburger said he would like to see the proposal move forward.

The Board expressed appreciation for the changes made to the sign. The Board expressed approval of the location of the sign, its height above the doorway and its scale in relation to the building.

Weisenburger moved that the Board find that the project meets the *Standards and Guidelines for Evaluating the Effect of Projects on Environs* and will not encroach upon, damage or destroy any listed historic property or its environs. The Board approves of the proposed design regardless of whether there is lettering and graphics on one, two or three sides of the awning sign.

Hill seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 6-0.

**3. Historic Markers**

The Board reviewed the Historic Marker Guidelines that had been approved by the Board in 2007 and began a discussion of how they should be applied. The Board approved a motion to table the item to ensure that the Guidelines being reviewed incorporate the latest revisions.

**4. Announcements and Updates**

The Board recapped the Neighborhood Meeting that was held at the City Library on March 11th for property owners in and around the Houston and Pierre Streets Residential District. The Board discussed what needed to be done for the April 9<sup>th</sup> Neighborhood Meeting and selected Mecseri and Hill to represent the Board because Roberts was to be absent. The Board instructed Staff to send out reminder postcards to property owners before the meeting.

The Board discussed future news releases regarding the Multiple Property Submission (MPS) Cover Documents, which were approved by the National Park Service, and the Historic Preservation Fund grant that was awarded to the City for an archaeological survey.

The Board discussed who may be able to attend the State Preservation Conference in Hutchinson on April 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>.

**5. Future Items**

Lynn-Sherow raised the matter of whether there is still an opportunity for the new Manhattan Emergency Shelter to re-install the original brick sidewalks during construction. The Board approved a motion to have the Chair send a letter to the Emergency Shelter and its Board of Directors to encourage the consideration of brick sidewalks along 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Yuma Street.

Staff notified the Board of two Conditional Use application scheduled before the Board of Zoning Appeals that are within historic environs, one located at 1011 Humboldt and the second at 1029 Poyntz. The Board directed Staff to review the projects administratively.

Weisenburger informed the Board that the Kansas Preservation Alliance is recognizing Kansas communities who undertake projects to preserve brick sidewalks and streets.

The Board discussed items for future meetings, including: an update on the City website and exploring a sidewalk ordinance.

**6. Upcoming Meetings:**

- Monday, April 28, 2008
- Monday, May 19, 2008

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cam Moeller, AICP, Planner II  
CM/cm/032408