

Minutes
Historic Resources Board
Conduff Conference Room, City Hall
1101 Poyntz Avenue
May 19, 2008
4:00 p.m.

Members Present: Tom Roberts, Chair; Ray Weisenburger; Elaine Mohr; Tracy Anderson; Bonnie Lynn-Sherow; Brooke Norman-Tapp; Patrick Schaub.

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Mike Mecseri; Kevin Harris; Kiersten Harris; Bill Von Elling; Jason Marietta; Sam Hayes.

Staff Present: Cam Moeller, Planner; Jane Winslow, Senior Planner; Curt Loupe, Director of Parks & Recreation; Eddie Eastes, Park Superintendent.

Roberts acknowledged the newest members of the Board, Brooke Norman-Tapp and Patrick Schaub. Roberts thanked Mike Mecseri and Jean Hill for their service on the Historic Resources Board. Roberts cited the experience Mecseri brought to the Board and his integral involvement with the restoration of the Union Pacific Depot, and noted how Hill is a valuable resource in the community with her vast knowledge of homes in the historic neighborhoods and many connections with people in Manhattan. Mecseri said he appreciated the opportunity he'd had to serve and to work alongside the other Board members. Mecseri congratulated the new members.

1. Consider the minutes of the April 28, 2008 Historic Resources Board meeting.

Mohr moved that the Board approve the minutes. Anderson seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 6-0 (Lynn-Sherow had not yet arrived).

2. ENVIRONS REVIEW

Building Permit, Jake's Fireworks, 3rd & Ft. Riley Blvd (within environs of Union Pacific Depot).

Moeller provided a brief overview of the proposal.

Jason Marietta, applicant, described the project as a mercantile building that will be used for seasonal sales. Marietta said the building will be a metal butler building with glass in front to give a commercial appearance, and there will also be shrubbery in front. Among the seasonal sales include fireworks around the 4th of July and flowers for some holidays.

The Board discussed the project being located nearby the South Downtown Redevelopment Area, across from the planned movie theater. Anderson asked about the color of the building. Marietta said it would be tan.

Roberts noted that additional landscaping would be one way to break up the appearance of a solid, steel building and would help to mitigate its impact on the Union Pacific Depot. Anderson suggested that trees could be planted on the eastern side of the building.

Anderson 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, with the suggestion that trees be planted on the eastern side of the building.

Marietta assured the Board that they would be putting in the landscaping.

Weisenburger seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 7-0.

**3. Presentation of City Park Master Plan & ENVIRONS REVIEW
City Park (within environs of Fitz House).**

Curt Loupe gave a presentation on the City Park Master Plan, including planned changes to the Park Pavilion, the playground and the rose garden among the projects. Loupe mentioned that the fountain in the rose garden is to be restored by a foundry out of Topeka. Loupe described the planned Pavilion as a larger structure, and one which will hopefully provide an expanded floor for ice skating. Loupe said he does not see any changes to the ball diamonds in the foreseeable future.

Weisenburger asked about the use of the open grounds on the west side of the park. Eddie Eastes described that as continuing to remain an un-programmed area which can be used as informal practice space.

Lynn-Sherow 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.

Mohr seconded the motion.

Roberts asked about the number of parking spaces that would be within the park compared to now. Eastes said there will be an overall increase although the parking lots would be re-located. The Board discussed how the current parking layout helps provide additional parking for those going to Aggieville.

Roberts asked about the walkways on the west side of the park. Loupe said they have been waiting on grants to hard surface that sidewalk but so far it has not been funded.

Roberts asked about the log cabin. Lynn-Sherow said the cabin was built in the 1920s and although it is historically inaccurate it has taken on some historic significance of its own.

The motion passed on a vote of 7-0.

**4. ENVIRONS REVIEW
Building Addition, 505 S. Juliette Ave (within environs of Hulse-Daughters House)**

Moeller provided a brief overview of the proposal.

Bill Von Elling, applicant, described the project, including the intention to put back 4” lap siding that will be cement fiber. Von Elling said the windows are double-hung.

Lynn-Sherow asked about the use of the back yard for parking and recommended that more be retained as green space.

Mohr 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.

Schaub seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 7-0.

5. **REVIEW OF CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURE WITHIN DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT AND ENVIRONS REVIEW**
Sign Permit, Chef Café, 111 S. 4th (within environs of Robert Ulrich House).

Moeller provided a brief overview of the proposal. Moeller noted that the Chef Café sign was designated as a “Historic Sign” by the Historic Districts Review Board in 1983. The proposal is to place the original sign back at its historic location. Kevin Harris, applicant, provided additional background about the history of the Chef Café and the sign. The Board expressed enthusiasm for the proposal.

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.

Norman-Tapp seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 7-0.

6. **ENVIRONS REVIEW**
Sign Permit, AJ’s Pizzeria, 301 Poyntz (within environs of Downtown Historic District).

Moeller provided a brief overview of the proposal and noted that the signs had been put in place without a sign permit having been issued.

The Board made note that the signs are in the same location as the signs were for Schlotzsky’s, which had previously occupied the building, and also that the signs are non-illuminated.

After discussion, Anderson 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.

Mohr seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 7-0.

7. **Archaeological Survey – Request for Qualifications**

Winslow updated the Board about the RFQ for the Archaeological Survey and said that there would be Board representation on the selection committee.

The Board discussed communicating with Riley County to ensure they are informed about the survey, possibly in the form of a letter to the County Commission and to the Riley County Historical Society.

8. Announcements and Updates

Weisenburger provided an update about the Core Downtown Revitalization Committee (CDRC). The Board requested an update about the CIP request for Downtown Design Guidelines at the June meeting.

Moeller provided an update about property owner support for the Houston & Pierre Streets Residential Historic District. It was noted that approximately 60% of property owners within the District have signed a consent form in support of the nomination. The Board discussed sending out additional notifications to property owners by registered or certified letters.

9. Election of Historic Resources Board Officers

Weisenburger moved that Tom Roberts be elected for another term as Chairperson. Mohr seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 7-0.

Lynn-Sherow nominated Brooke Norman-Tapp as Vice Chairperson. Weisenburger moved for a vote of acclamation. Norman-Tapp was elected Vice Chair by a vote of 7-0.

10. Future Items

Lynn-Sherow requested that there be an examination of the number of environs reviews that have gone before the Board to see how they have increased over the years.

The Board requested that there being a recurring update item about the CDRC.

11. Upcoming Meetings:

- Monday, June 23, 2008
- Monday, July 28, 2008

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cam Moeller, AICP, Planner II
CM/cm
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