

Minutes
HISTORIC RESOURCES BOARD
City Commission Room, City Hall
1101 Poyntz Avenue
Monday, September 28th, 2015
4:00 P.M.

Members Present: Dea Brokesh; Betty Mattingly-Ebert, Vice-Chair; Craig Hager; Tyler Holloman; Eileen Meyer; Suzanne Orr; Cameron Tross, Chair.

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Kathy Dzewaltowski; Sara Fisher.

Staff Present: Benjamin Chmiel, Planner; Lance Evans, Senior Planner.

Meeting began at: 4:05 pm.

1. Consider the minutes from August 24, 2015 meeting.

Brokesh moved to approve the minutes as amended. Holloman seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

2. CAMP Review.

The Board discussed their takeaways from the CAMP Conference. Brokesh discussed the importance of identifying character-defining features of the city-owned structures over 50 years old. Mattingly-Ebert pointed out many of the structures have character-defining features listed in their register nominations, which should be referenced when possible. Brokesh also suggested the recommendations of the HRB be included along with the information kept for any city-owned structure. Chmiel explained that city staff are working on a compilation resource of information of city-owned structures along with recommendations from the HRB, which would soon be completed for review.

Hager agreed the inventory of the city-owned structures is important in light of the conference. He added there are other resources in the community the Board could reach out to for getting involved in historic preservation. Brokesh agreed public support is important. Hager added, some buildings, just because they are old, are not necessarily worthy of preservation and the importance of making the distinction through the inventory.

Brokesh suggested the Board could review structures on a regular basis to identify their character-defining features. Chmiel explained having the informational resource for city-owned structures would be a working document that could be drawn from as needed and

to solidify the Board's recommendations for structures in the future. Holloman stated the research on the city-owned structures and their recommendations should be wrapped up and forwarded to the City Commission soon. Hager and Ebert agreed that the available information was a good starting point, but should not be dwelt on for sake of time and available resources.

Chmiel explained the last recommendations forwarded to the City Commission were paired with CIP funding requests using the information gathered by the HRB in the past. Further recommendations and information could also be paired with CIP requests. Evans added having information available will help the Board to be more proactive in historic preservation.

Brokesh and Mattingly-Ebert reminded the Board significance and priority of city-owned structures was subject to change in the future as new information is found or as conditions change.

3. Minor Review Applications Update.

Chmiel presented the minor review of a building permit at 116 S. 4th St. (Mid-Town Plaza, Non-Contributing) for the interior construction of partitions, creating additional rooms. No exterior changes were proposed.

4. Updates and Announcements.

Chmiel reminded the Board of the CAMP and Statewide CLG Training scholarship reimbursement opportunity, which was sent to them previously.

Chmiel also reminded the Board that the 2015 Kansas Preservation Conference was on October 7th and 8th in Manhattan.

Tross expressed his desire for the Board to address historic downtown design guidelines. He also stressed the importance of getting the business' input and support for these guidelines as not to inhibit economic viability. He added that using previous drafts of guidelines would be a good place to start. Chmiel agreed DMI's input and support would be critical to the process and being able to portray the benefit.

Tross described how the review process could be more effective and objective with design guidelines, as opposed to the generic standards established by the Secretary of the Interior. As well, business owners could be more proactive in their proposals by having guidelines to review up front. Tross suggested the Board come up with some ideas and examples of guidelines to walk through with DMI at a future meeting. Brokesh suggest using the 1980 guidelines to start with. Tross explained more specific guidelines would be good to have in order to be less arbitrary in the review process.

Evans explained that a Heritage Trust Fund grant application for the Union Pacific Depot repairs was being completed by city staff, after the CIP request for match funding from the Parks Advisory Board was approved by the City Commission.

5. Upcoming Meetings.

- Monday, October 26, 2015.
- Monday, November 23, 2015.

6. Adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.