

MINUTES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
October 2, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pat Roseland, Jean Kessloff, Trevor Johnson, Ken Loeschke, Duane Baumgartner, Mike Bender, John Wagner

OTHERS PRESENT: Sheila Johnson, Eric Abrahamson, Marcia Elkins, Sharlene Mitchell

Call to Order

Loeschke called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.

Approval of Meeting Agenda

Kessloff requested that 621 Main Street be added as 11.1 Reviews Items 1a. **Roseland moved, Baumgartner seconded and carried unanimously to approve the Meeting Agenda as amended.**

1010 Fairview Street (09RS019)

Johnson presented the request to replace the existing narrow second floor hobby room window with a double hung window that would better match the existing first floor windows. Johnson indicated that the double hung window was required for improved ventilation and emergency access to the second floor area.

In response to a question from Kessloff, Johnson indicated that she was unaware of the factors prompting the non-contributing classification. Roseland indicated that the metal siding would have been a contributing factor to the non-contributing classification.

Discussion followed regarding the size, style and window light design of the proposed window and the original use of the hobby room space.

Roseland moved, Bender seconded and carried unanimously to recommend a finding that the replacement of the existing narrow second floor hobby room window with a double hung window on the property located at 1010 Fairview Street will have no adverse effect on historic property.

Improvements at 621 Main Street

Kessloff requested additional information regarding the review previously acted on at 621 Main Street. She expressed concern with the "Independence Hall" sign installed on the property at 621 Main Street noting that the sign gives the impression that the property has some historical significance. In response to a question from Kessloff, Elkins indicated that the action taken by the Commission places responsibility for evaluation of the black brick façade on the applicant. Kessloff indicated that she wanted to know if the brick façade has been replaced.

Kessloff moved, Bender seconded and carried unanimously to continue the discussion of the improvements completed at 621 Main Street to the October 16, 2009 meeting to allow staff to bring back additional information on the sign and brick façade.

Approve Minutes

Roseland moved, Kessloff seconded and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the September 4, 2009 meeting. Baumgartner moved, Bender seconded and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2009 meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Mitchell presented the application for the 2010 Black Hills Home Builders Home Show and briefly reviewed the projected cost increases. **Roseland moved, Kessloff seconded and carried unanimously to approve submission of the 2010 Black Hills Home Builders Home Show Registration contract form for booths L277 and L276 in the amount of \$950.00.**

Mitchell advised the members of the March 2010 show dates and hours: Friday, March 26, 2010 - 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Saturday, March 27, 2010 - 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Sunday, March 28, 2010 – 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Roseland requested that the State Historic Preservation Office be contacted regarding participating in the cost of the booth rental.

Rapid City/Black Hills Community Archive Consortium

Abrahamson indicated that the purpose of the Black Hills Community Archives Consortium project is to establish a replicable and national model for the creation of virtual cooperative archives for Rapid City and surrounding areas noting that the digital archives will provide easily accessible information to the local communities. Abrahamson addressed the current efforts of the Rapid City Library to develop an item specific searchable data base of the City Council meeting minutes.

Abrahamson presented the grant application to the National Historical Publications and Records Commission to fund the initial project that will survey formal and informal archives held by a variety of community institutions, selected individuals and families. Abrahamson indicated that the initial project will create a universal finding aid that will be added to a searchable online archive of historically important archival materials. Abrahamson requested the Commission's support for the grant application noting the various entities the Consortium is currently associated with.

In response to a question from Bender, Abrahamson indicated that the Consortium wanted to identify major collections held within the community and incorporate them into the system. Abrahamson indicated that Black Hills Corporation is currently digitizing their records noting the need to establish an agreement with the Corporation to allow access to the information. Elkins addressed the City's aerial photograph archives and the City's discussions on how best to preserve and make the data available to the public.

In response to a question from Bender, Abrahamson indicated that the accessible data base would be digital noting that the Homestake Adams Research Center has the highest quality archival storage available in the area. Abrahamson indicated that the Consortium would make recommendations that those collections of high value or at serious risk contract with Homestake for permanent storage of the hard copy data.

In response to a question from Elkins, Abrahamson indicated that the grants will be available in June, 2010 noting the need to secure a motion of support for the grant application from the Commission at this time.

Baumgartner recommended that the Ellsworth Air Force Base and the Rapid City School System be identified as possible resources. Abrahamson indicated that the Rapid City Public Library is working with various agencies on creating a universal data base location for general public access.

Kessloff moved, Roseland seconded and carried unanimously to authorize a letter of support for the Rapid City and Black Hills Community Archives Consortium grant request to the National Historical Publications and Records Commission for the purpose of developing a searchable, online archive of historically important archival materials that will serve the Rapid City and surround area.

Elkins indicated that staff would prepare the letter of support for the Chairperson's signature. In response to a question, Abrahamson thanked the Commission for their support and requested that the letter be addressed to the National Historical Publications and Records Commission and forwarded to Greta Chapman, Director of the Rapid City Public Library.

National Register Nomination Project

Kessloff addressed the current efforts to prepare the National Register Nomination for the Dakota Middle School building noting the submission deadline for the nomination. Kessloff requested that the Commission waive the initial thirty (30) days of the application review period to allow the nomination application to be submitted by the November 7, 2009 deadline. In response to a question, Kessloff clarified that waiver of the initial thirty days is required to allow the application to be submitted by the November 7, 2009 deadline for consideration by the State at their December 7, 2009 meeting.

Elkins requested clarification of the Commission's communications with the landowner regarding the proposed nomination noting the City Council's concern with the Commission's previous lack of communication with property owners. Elkins strongly encouraged the Committee to obtain input from the public and landowners prior to proceeding with nomination applications. Kessloff stated that the State will notify the landowner at the time the application is submitted. Bender indicated that public property can be nominated by any entity or individual without the landowner's approval.

Bender moved to waive the initial thirty (30) days of the sixty (60) day review period. Baumgartner seconded the motion.

In response to a question from Roseland, Kessloff reviewed the timeframe for submission and review of the nomination request. Roseland recommended that the landowner be advised of the nomination action prior to the submission of the application.

The motion to waive the initial thirty (30) days of the sixty (60) day review period carried unanimously.

Discussion followed regarding the goals outlined by the Comprehensive Plan to protect historically important resources using the National Register nomination process. Elkins encouraged open conversations with the landowner prior to proceeding with the nomination project to protect valuable relationships and secure community support. Bender indicated that the objective should be to encourage and assist the landowner in pursuing the nomination of historical resources. Loeschke recommended that the Commission sponsor the nomination application.

In response to a question from Elkins, Kessloff indicated that grant funding would not be requested for the project noting that Dennis is volunteering her work on the nomination. Baumgartner indicated that in the Memorandum of Agreement between the School District and

the Performing Arts Groups the Rapid City School District acknowledged the need to preserve the historic resource.

Bender indicated that he could support moving forward with the nomination provided that the landowner was notified of the application prior to its submission. Discussion followed regarding providing a liaison from the Commission to the Dakota Middle School Committee with the liaison advising the Committee of the nomination project.

Elkins recommended, and Loeschke concurred, that Kessloff and Dennis present the nomination project to the Rapid City School Building Committee as soon as possible.

Roseland moved to sponsor the Dakota Middle School National Register Nomination. Baumgartner seconded the motion.

Bender offered a friendly amendment to the motion to stipulate that Kessloff and Dennis contact the landowner immediately to advise them of the intent, purpose and value of the National Register Nomination project. **Roseland and Baumgartner accepted the friendly amendment.**

Discussion followed regarding the presentation of the nomination project to the landowner.

The motion to sponsor the Dakota Middle School National Register Nomination with the stipulation that Kessloff and Dennis contact the landowner immediately to advise them of the intent, purpose and value of the National Register Nomination project carried unanimously.

Loeschke requested that the Dakota Middle School National Register Nomination be added to the agenda as Subcommittee Item 10 with Kessloff identified as the reporting member.

In response to a question from Loeschke, Elkins indicated that the grant funding identified for the National Register Nomination Project could be used for copying charges associated with the Dakota Middle School project. Discussion followed regarding expenditure of the grant funding for the nomination project. The Commission recommended addressing specific funding restrictions for use of the grant funds for the nomination project at the October 16, 2009 meeting.

Old Business

Loeschke reminded the members to submit their September timesheets.

Subcommittee Reports

Discussion followed regarding the recent occupancy changes to the Abby's Feed & Seed Building.

Salvaging of Historic Materials

Baumgartner recommended that the Commission develop a policy for evaluating and securing historic materials. Discussion followed regarding the restoration and disposition of the Schmid window.

Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:29 a.m.