

**Minutes  
Historic Sign Review Committee  
October 17, 2014**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kyle Blada, Jim Jackson, Clancy Kingsbury and Lee Geiger

MEMBERS ABSENT: Vicki Fenhaus

STAFF PRESENT: Sarah Hanzel, Patsy Horton, Brett Limbaugh and Jeanne Nicholson

OTHERS PRESENT: Kathy Johnson and Randy Culver

Blada called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

706 St. Joseph Street (14SN028)

Hanzel presented the request and reviewed the aerial map and the drawings.

In response to a question from Jackson, Johnson advised that the signs will be for Black Hills State University and that they will have an office in the law firm.

**Jackson moved to approve the two vinyl window signs and the vinyl building sign at 706 St. Joseph Street. The motion was seconded by Kingsbury.**

Geiger expressed his opinion that both the window signs and the business sign are redundant and suggested that the building sign be eliminated.

In response to a question from Geiger, Johnson explained that the four window panels measure approximately 90 square feet which would allow 22.5 feet of signage. She noted that the proposed signs equal approximately 19 feet.

In response to a question from Jackson, Johnson advised that the University will have to go through the bid process to hire a contractor to do the signs. She noted that the University wanted to get the Committee's approval prior to going through the bid process.

Geiger stated that his preference is that the building sign be eliminated and that the two window signs be approved.

**Geiger made a substitute motion to approve the two window signs and that the building sign be removed from the application. The motion was seconded by Kingsbury and carried with Geiger, Kingsbury and Blada voting yes and Jackson voting no.**

**MINUTES**

**Jackson moved to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2014 meeting. The motion was seconded by Kingsbury and carried unanimously.**

**STAFF ITEMS**

Staff Memo & Final Report and Recommendations from Lehe Planning

Hanzel reviewed the staff memo and briefly addressed the Memorandum of Joint Agreement, the recommended ordinance which would create a zoning overlay district for Downtown and for West Boulevard, the reorganization of the Historic Preservation Commission and the Historic Sign Review

Committee, the development of the design criteria guidelines, the creation of a downtown master plan, the administrative approval of projects that meet the adopted guidelines and the project review process by staff, the Historic Preservation Commission and the State.

Jackson expressed concern about having sign representatives on two different boards.

In response to a question from Kingsbury, Hanzel explained that if staff can administratively approve the sign permits, they would not be reviewed by either of the boards.

Limbaugh explained that the Lehe Report recommends that two overlay districts, one for commercial and one for residential, be created. He added that guidelines will be established and that staff could administratively approve sign permits.

Jackson commented that the Historic Sign Review Committee has been flexible in allowing new up-to-date signs and that he does not want to see the process go backwards and be more difficult for the public to get signs approved in the Historic District.

Geiger expressed concern about the signs along Mt. Rushmore Road. He added that most of the signs are for commercial uses but are located in a residential area. He added that this board has worked hard to protect the historic buildings and has allowed modern productive signs that are aesthetically pleasing to the Historic District.

In response to question from Jackson, Limbaugh explained that the new ordinance for the reorganization will become part of the Zoning Ordinance and that public hearings will be held for the Zoning Ordinance Update.

Jackson requested that staff inform the Historic Sign Review Committee of the public hearings.

Kingsbury expressed his opinion that all signs, including the ones along Mt. Rushmore Road, should be reviewed by the Board that will be representing the commercial district.

In response to a question from Geiger, Hanzel advised that the State does not review sign permits.

Geiger commented that this is a specialized board that reviews signs and once the ordinance is changed, the knowledge of the board will be diluted by splitting into two boards. He added that eliminating the Historic Sign Review Committee would be counterproductive.

Jackson expressed his opinion that dividing the Historic Sign Review Committee into two boards will be a disservice to the public.

Geiger commented that the design standards should be written to assist in revitalizing the Historic District and should encourage a contemporary design to mix in with the current signs that are located in the district.

Kingsbury stated that the proposed changes are a lot to digest and suggested that further discussion be held at another time.

**Kingsbury moved to acknowledge Lehe Planning's Final Report. The motion was seconded by Jackson and carried unanimously.**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:42 a.m.