

Belleville Historic Preservation Commission

Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 (Meeting held as a teleconference per requirements due to the Covid-19 pandemic. All voting will be a roll call vote.)

Attendance:

Ashley Pollock, Vice Chairperson (Acting Chair)
Keith Owens, Secretary/Treasurer
Andy Gaa, Member
Nichole Hettenhausen, Member
Jack LeChien, Member
Eric Schauster, City
Emma A. Oldehoeft, New City Planner/City

Absent:

Molly McKenzie, Chairperson (Excused)
Justin Dominique, Member
Linda Weisenstein, Member

DRR Guest:

Kathleen Nadeau, Homeowners (203 Abend Street) - DRR request

Members of the Public:

Mike Dill

Call to Order: 7:01 pm

Since the chairperson is absent, Ms. Pollock – Vice Chairperson, is Acting Chair for the January 2021 BHPC Monthly Meeting. Also, due to the meeting being conducted as a teleconference, emergency procedures were waived.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A call for public participation was given, but no one responded.

DESIGN REVIEW REQUEST(S)

203 Abend Street: Kathleen & Donald Nadeau, Homeowners

Upper railing on balcony will be removed and duplicated using Composite (Versalast) on the Fretwork and use clean fir for the posts and railing. Also the small decorative shelf needs to be replaced. Brackets to stay in place and using pressure treated pin and oak for the shelf. Finally, the front porch floor will be removed, replaced and painted with pressure treated pine.

Mr. Owens – Motion made: “I make a motion that we accept the DRR on 203 Abend Street as requested on the packet.”

Mr. LeChien - Second

Roll call vote was conducted - Motion carries unanimously

OFFICER’S REPORTS

Chairperson Report: No Report

Vice Chairperson Report: No Report

Secretary Report:

Tuesday, December 8, 2020 Special meeting minutes were presented and no correction were needed.

Mr. Gaa – Motion made: “I make a motion to accept the minutes.”

Mrs. Hettenhausen - Second

Roll call vote was conducted - Motion carries unanimously

Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer’s Report:

Mr. Owens shared with the commission that at the end of November 2020 there was \$3145.86 in the savings account (increase of \$0.26 in interest), with an additional \$2,000 from the city budget.

Mrs. Hettenhausen - Motion made: “I make a motion to approve.”

Mr. Gaa - Second

Roll call vote was conducted - Motion carries unanimously

Mr. Owens shared with the commission that at the end of December 2020 there was \$3146.12 in the savings account (increase of \$0.26 in interest), with an additional \$2,000 from the city budget.

Mrs. Hettenhausen - Motion made: “I make a motion to accept.”

Mr. Gaa - Second

Roll call vote was conducted - Motion carries unanimously

New/Old Business

Historic District Banners

At the December 21, 2020 City Council meeting, the design of the Historic District Banners was presented but then tabled for an indefinite time. It was presented to the commission that some aldermen had some concerns about the banners. There was no real direction or listing of the concerns that the aldermen had concerning the banners. Mr. LeChein suggested that Ms. Oldehoeft, from the city, reach out to the aldermen via email and ask for their concerns and present those concerns to the commission at the February 2021 meeting. Also, Mr. LeChein suggested that we table the Historic District Banners until we all can be present for a meeting instead of how the meetings are currently run using teleconferencing. Ms. Pollock suggested we discuss the banners at the present meeting, but Mr. LeChein disagreed that we needed to know what concerns the aldermen have before the commission has discussions on the future of the banners. Mr. LeChein also noted that with the \$2000 city appropriation, we should look at several hundred dollars for the yearly newsletter and the rest to be request to be ear marked for banners so monies can be forwarded into the 2022 fiscal year starting in May 2021.

Mr. LeChein - Motion made: "I would like to make a motion to send emails from the commission, as we just described, to the aldermen if they have any concerns – giving them the opportunity to voice any concerns so we know for sure what their issues are. Also we may want to invite the aldermen, whose wards include one of the historic district, to attend a commission meeting but not have this meeting until we can all meet face to face instead of teleconferencing."

Mr. Owens - Second

Roll call vote was conducted

Mr Gaa – yes

Mrs. Hettenhausen – yes

Mr. LeChein – yes

Mr. Owens – yes

Ms. Pollock – abstain.

Motion Carries

DRR Manual Revision Review Update

Mr. Owens was acknowledge as the POC for the DRR Manual Revision Review and he corrected that acknowledgement stating that Mr. Gaa and Mr. LeChein had taken the leadership role in this project. Mr. Gaa shared that there was nothing to report and Mr. LeChein stated that this is a decision that should happen during a face to face meeting of the commission instead of a teleconference, based on the magnitude of the discussion and revisions that are needed. Mr. Gaa agreed. Ms. Pollock stated that there was no need for a vote and we will remove this item from future agenda until the pandemic is over and meeting can be face to face.

Spring Newsletter

Mr. LeChein asked that this topic be placed on the agenda because spring is coming and homeowners will be working on home improvement projects. The newsletter will be simple and reinforcing the DRR requirements for homes within the historical districts. Mr. Schauster stated that the city has not sent the letters to the realtors or home owners about the historical districts in Belleville, and this may be a great opportunity to piggy back onto the letter stating the DRR requirements, eliminating the need for a newsletter this year and save some money. Mr. Schauster stated that if Mr. LeChein had any photos and a message for the letter, that it can be sent to Mr. Schauster and it will be added to the letter the city will be sending out.

Letter to the Realtors

Ms. Pollock wanted to be put on record that no discussion of the letter to the realtors would occur.

Miscellaneous

Mr. Owens shared that he has received some emails from the St. Clair County Historic Society and the Belleville Historic Society about Museum Day the first Saturday in June. Mr. Owens shared that he is still willing to do the DIY home improvement presentations. Historic tuckpointing and historic window re-glazing and re-stinging.

Also Mr. Owens shared that he would like to do the historic tuckpointing and window presentations via Facebook Live also during the fall of the year.

Meeting to Adjourn

Mrs. Hettenhausen motioned to adjourn,

Mr. Owens - second,

Roll call vote was conducted - Motion carries unanimously

Meeting adjourn 7:51 pm

Date Approved: _____

Chairperson Signature

Date

Approved on March 16, 2021