

## MINUTES OF THE ALBERT LEA HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION

**Regular Meeting**  
**February 13, 2024**  
**5:30 pm – City Center**

Call to order at 5:35pm by Megan Boeck.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Brad Kirchner, Linda Bryan, Tom Staker, Tarrah Hall-Sather, and Larry Baker.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Stephanie Kibler, Nic Lang, and Darin Johnson.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Megan Boeck, City Planner.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was made by Kirchner and second by Hall-Sather to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Kirchner and second by Bryan to approve the January 9, 2024 meeting minutes as written. Motion carried.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

#### **1) Certificate of Appropriateness – 201-211 Broadway Ave S**

Staker opened the public hearing at 5:38pm.

Boeck stated that the property owner has applied for a COA for updated lighting, signage, window and door replacement, and a rear fire escape.

Kirchner questioned if fire escapes were allowed. Boeck stated that Minnesota State Building Code dictates the appropriate use of fire escapes and that the property owners are working with a registered architect in the State of Minnesota that has designed fire escapes on other historic structures in Albert Lea.

Kirchner stated that champagne is a consistent color throughout the building and that the property owners may use champagne instead of bronze if they would like.

Staker noted that he wanted the sign on the front of the Jacobson building to be fastened to an appropriate part of the building.

Staker closed the public hearing at 5:53.

Motion by Hall-Sather and second by Bryan to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness for 201-211 Broadway Avenue South with the addition of a Juliet balcony on the ground level. Motion carried on a 4-0 voice vote.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1) Design Guideline Update**

Boeck provided a draft of the heritage preservation guideline update provided by Pigeon Consulting and MacDonald and Mack. Boeck stated that a final draft will be presented at the March meeting and asked commissioners to submit any questions, comments or concerns in advance.

## **COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION**

Baker said the Marion Ross Theatre is requesting to have their sign move messages faster. Boeck stated that electric messaging signs is dictated by zoning ordinance but that the proposed sign ordinance amendment/replacement will permit a more frequent message change on signs.

## **STAFF COMMUNICATION**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Kirchner and second by Hall-Sather to adjourn the meeting at 6:19pm. Motion carried.

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Megan Boeck, City Planner

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Tom Staker, Chair