

MINUTES OF THE ALBERT LEA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Regular Meeting

October 22, 2019

5:30 pm City Hall Council Chambers

Call to order at 5:33 pm by Chairman Kirchner

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brad Kirchner, Tami Staker, Charles Newell, Jennifer Levisen and Larry Baker.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Linda Bryan, Becky Johnson and Brad Kramer.

STAFF PRESENT: Megan Boeck, City Planner.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Newell and second by Staker to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Newell and second by Staker to approve the September 24, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

218 S Washington—COA for Tuck Pointing.

Chairman Kirchner opened the public hearing at 5:35 pm.

Boeck informed the Board that Nic Lang, the new property owner of 218 S Washington, has plans to restore the exterior facade. Lang informed that Board that he has worked with a company called Building Restoration Corporation to create a project scope which includes tuck pointing, brick replacement, some brick removal, brick rebuilding and washing across the entire building facade. Lang also informed the Board that repairs are needed on all four sides of the building.

Motion by Staker and second by Levisen to approved the COA for 218 S Washington as presented. Motion carried.

Chairman Kirchner closed the public hearing at 5:41 pm.

NEW BUSINESS

Main Street Design Committee

Boeck informed the Board that as of today's date, Albert Lea has been approved as a Main Street Community and that members of the HPC Board will be asked to serve on the design portion of that committee.

Boeck also stated that Shane Koepke is working with a few Blandin Alumni to pursue public art projects within the downtown. Koepke explained that their goal is to have between 5-10 pieces of public art by year 2025. It was the consensus of that Board that they pinpoint possible locations and buildings for public art that would benefit the historic district.

Historic Preservation Guidelines/District Update

Kirchner highlighted a number of areas within the district guidelines that could be updated including adding two additional properties to the historic district, further defining fixed and stationary awnings, signs within awnings, modern façade materials and exterior and interior window signs. It was the consensus of the Board that members continue to read through the guidelines and make edits for continued discussion as a group.

Historic Preservation Annual Report

Motion by Staker and second by Newell to approve the Annual Report as presented. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS

None

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**Preserve MN Conference Attendance**

Boeck informed the Board that the Board will meet in November because there are already two pending COA applications.

Motion by Staker and second by Kirchner to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 pm. Motion carried.

Megan Boeck, City Planner

Brad Kirchner, Chairman