

BISMARCK HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
October 20, 2021

The Bismarck Historic Preservation Commission met on October 20, 2021, at 3:30 p.m. in the Tom Baker Meeting Room in the City-County Office Building, 221 North 5th Street. The meeting was held in person and via Zoom. Chair Sakariassen presided.

Commissioners present were Walt Bailey, Blake Dinkins, Calvin Grinnell, Tory Jackson, Beth Nodland and Amy Sakariassen.

Commissioner Steve Bakken was not present.

Staff members present were Sandra Bogaczyk – Office Assistant II, Ben Ehreth - Community Development Director, Stephanie Pretzer – Assistant City Attorney and Will Hutchings – Senior Planner.

Guests present were Shawn Brannan – Talking Trails and John Nelson – The Printers.

MINUTES

Chair Sakariassen called for consideration of the minutes of the August 18, 2021 meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission.

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Bailey to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2021 meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission, as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nodland and with Commissioners Bailey, Dinkins, Grinnell, Jackson, Nodland and Chair Sakariassen voting in favor of the motion, the motion was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Sakariassen asked if there were any public comments.

There being no public input Chair Sakariassen resumed the meeting.

SECTION 106 REVIEW - COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM

Mr. Hutchings stated that the City of Bismarck has received a Section 106 Review request from the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office for a proposed home improvement project at 1119 University Drive. Mr. Hutchings stated that the State Historic Preservation Office indicated that since the structure is less than 50 years of age, they recommend a concurrence of No Historic Properties Affected.

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Nodland to approve the Section 106 declaration for the proposed home improvement project at 1119 University Drive, as written with a finding of No Historic Properties Affected. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dinkins and with Commissioners Bailey, Dinkins,

Grinnell, Jackson, Nodland and Chair Sakariassen voting in favor of the motion, the motion was approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

DISCUSSION ON POTENTIAL 2022 HPF GRANT APPLICATION AND SESQUICENTENNIAL ACTIVITIES

Staff and Commissioners discussed potential 2022 Historic Preservation Fund grant application requests including activities, estimated costs, planned CLG Conference and the suggestion of creating history themed street banners. Examples shown as Exhibits A and B. Other ideas were discussed including surveys and NRHP Nominations. Other banner ideas were suggested including sponsorship to pay for the signs. There was a consensus that the street banners are a good idea. The commissioners also discussed potential sesquicentennial activities and promotion.

Chair Sakariassen suggested working with already organized social and organizational groups to make connections between a groups' mission and historical events may be the easiest way to get more sesquicentennial related activities scheduled.

Ms. Nodland suggested various community groups each taking responsibility to perform some historical challenge to publicize events.

Chair Sakariassen suggested that the Historic Preservation Commission write an editorial or press release for the newspaper calling on organizations and businesses to create sesquicentennial themed events.

Mr. Bailey agreed and thought groups would have a positive reaction to wanting to tell their story of who they are.

Mr. Bailey suggested that City Commission make the Sesquicentennial a city-wide celebration.

Mr. Hutchings stated that he would draft a press release for review at the next meeting and challenged Historic Preservation Commission members to create a media contact list for distribution of the press release.

Ms. Nodland stated that there is interest in groups creating their own projects for the event and asked staff if curricula could be created for teachers to use in classrooms and asked if it could be included into a grant. Mr. Hutchings stated that he will add the request to his list and bring back to Commissioners to consider.

NOTICE OF ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL MEMORIAL CHURCH NRHP LISTING

Mr. Hutchings stated that National Register of Historic Places nomination of St. George's Episcopal Memorial Church was accepted by the National Historical Register of Historic Places (NHRHP) on October 5, 2021. Commission members expressed their delight and surprise in the short amount of time the NHRHP took to consider and approve. Letter is shown as Exhibit C. Commissioners commended Emily Sakariassen, the Nomination Author, for the quality work she did writing the nomination.

UPDATE ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN TIMELINE SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Hutchings complimented Subcommittee members for their time collecting such a high quality of content along with the level of detail achieved for the historic timeline project and stated that their input and effort has been remarkable. Mr. Hutchings reviewed the history of the endeavor and explained the process used to compile information. He also stated the remaining items to be completed by the subcommittee.

Ms. Nodland stated that she has learned a lot more about the history of Bismarck through the process and has enjoyed the work and was thankful for the activity.

TALKING TRAILS AND HISTORIC WALKING MAP PROJECT UPDATES

Mr. Hutchings, along with Mr. Brannan, gave an update about the progress of the Talking Trails initiative.

Commission members discussed the City branding and discussed branding and signage for the project.

Mr. Nelson asked for any guidance from Commission members to enhance the Historic Walking Map project and distributed a proof of the map, shown as Exhibit D.

Chair Sakariassen stated that she likes the layout very much. Mr. Dinkins agreed and made some suggestions.

Ms. Nodland asked for some updates for a few of the map items. She reminded Commission members that Bloody Fourth Street is not in any way associated with an alley, but rather is an historic era of the area in the vicinity and centered around Fourth Street and the image used in the draft copy is not a representation of Bismarck but a facsimile of events from New York City. Ms. Nodland offered an historic image of 4th Street to alternatively be included in the pamphlet and submitted as Exhibit E. She stated that she drafted text if Commissioners choose to include the place in the pamphlet. Chair Sakariassen and Mr. Bailey thought the event should be included in the pamphlet as an historic narrative, not highlighted as a physical location in the 5th Street and 4th Street alley.

There was discussion about which buildings should be included in the pamphlet and consensus was reached.

TOGETHER 2045 – BISMARCK'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN NOTICE

Mr. Hutchings stated the City of Bismarck Community Development Department is conducting an update of the area's comprehensive plan, Together 2045, to guide future growth and development of the community. Mr. Hutchings encouraged commission members to sign up for any of focus group topics and explained its many facets.

HIGHLAND ACRES PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING KICK-OFF

Mr. Hutchings stated that a meeting has been scheduled for November 4, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. at the Highland Acres Elementary School for the residents of Highland Acres and the public to learn more about the efforts to place the Highland Acres neighborhood on the National

Register of Historic Places. Letters have been mailed to residents informing them about this meeting and a press release is scheduled.

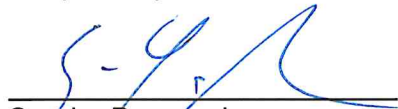
REVISED MEETING START TIME FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

Mr. Hutchings stated that due to potential conflicts with scheduled meetings, staff is recommending that the next two Historic Preservation Commission meetings be scheduled to start at 3:00 p.m. instead of the regular 3:30 p.m. scheduled time. Members agreed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Sakariassen declared the meeting of the Bismarck Historic Preservation Commission adjourned at 4:29 p.m. to meet again on November 17, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,


Sandra Bogaczyk
Recording Secretary

APPROVED:


Amy Sakariassen, Chair