

**BISMARCK HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 15, 2024**

The Bismarck Historic Preservation Commission met on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at 3:00 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. Dakota Media Access was present to record the meeting and archive on freetv.org for public viewing. Vice Chair Nodland presided.

Commissioners present were Michael Connelly, Damita Engel, Tory Jackson, Beth Nodland and Scooter Pursley.

Commissioners Amy Sakariassen and John Swanson were not present.

Staff members present were Sandra Bogaczyk – Office Assistant, Ben Ehreth – Community Development Director, Daniel Nairn – Planning Manager, Lauren Oster – Planner and Stephanie Pretzer – Assistant City Attorney.

Guest present was Jim Christianson – Renaissance Zone Authority Chair and Parking Authority Chair.

MINUTES

Vice Chair Nodland called for consideration of the minutes of the April 17, 2024, meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission.

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Jackson to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2024, meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Engel and with Commissioners Connelly, Engel, Jackson, Pursley and Vice Chair Nodland voting in favor of the motion, the motion was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Vice Chair Nodland asked if there were any public comments.

There being no public comments, Vice Chair Nodland resumed the meeting.

INTRODUCTION TO JIM CHRISTIANSON AND THE RENAISSANCE ZONE AUTHORITY

Vice Chair Nodland welcomed Mr. Christianson who introduced himself and presented to the Commission what the Renaissance Zone Authority is and does and how the Authority might work with the Historic Preservation Commission in the future. He explained to Commissioners the purpose of the Authority and its process. He explained that the Renaissance Zone Authority has worked with \$100,000,000 in investment in downtown Bismarck since its inception in 2001. Mr. Christianson provided several examples of Renaissance Zone projects and stated that what is good for the downtown is good for the whole city.

There was discussion about how and when the Renaissance Zone Authority could communicate with the Commission on future projects and noted that both the Historic Preservation

Commission and the Renaissance Zone Authority work closely with the same Community Development Department staff for both boards which would create opportunities to easily share information.

Vice Chair Nodland encouraged Commissioners to review the Downtown Historic District as many buildings will soon become historically significant and suggested that the west end of downtown is an opportunity for historical work regarding the automotive history of Bismarck.

Commissioners thanked Mr. Christianson for appearing.

2022 HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND GRANT UPDATE

Ms. Oster stated that Indigo Signs has completed making the street banners for the Highland Acres Historic District and will coordinate with Public Works on the sign installation. Ms. Oster thanked Commissioner Pursley for writing the press release which will be announced on the City website.

Ms. Oster stated that the cost of printing additional Timeline of Bismarck History booklets increased and asked Commissioners if they would like to use remaining funds as approved previously for booklets or, since the dollar amount was much higher than discussed at previous meetings, if members would prefer spending funds elsewhere.

There was discussion about how to spend the remaining funds by the September deadline due to the consensus that the expense for additional timeline booklets was exorbitant. Vice Chair Nodland asked members to come to the next meeting with suggestions of how to use the remaining funds and reminded members of the list of possible projects previously created, to spend the remaining \$2995.75 by September.

There was a consensus to wait and see how the Highland Acres Historical District banners look in situ before possibly buying more banners.

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Pursley to deny funding for purchasing Bismarck Timeline Booklets to decide a better use of funds. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Connelly, and with Commissioners Connelly, Engel, Jackson, Pursley and Vice Chair Nodland voting in favor of the motion, the motion was approved.

2023 HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRANT UPDATE

Ms. Oster updated members about progress on the grant and reminded members that a subcommittee meeting to discuss the Cathedral Historic District Banners is scheduled for May 30, 2024. Ms. Oster stated that Chair Sakariassen is still drafting the descriptive blocks to include in the map brochure for the Highland Acres Historic District Walking Tour Maps.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN UPDATE

Ms. Oster stated that the Historic Preservation Survey closed May 8, 2024, received over 100 responses from the public and will be provided to members at the next meeting.

Ms. Oster explained the significance of the survey in aiding members to complete Bismarck's first Historic Preservation Plan. She reminded members that they decided to form a subcommittee to this endeavor and stated that a time will be scheduled by end of June to also include interested members of the public to be announced on the City's website.

Ms. Engel expressed her excitement of the phenomenal rate of return and thanked members for enticing the public for responses.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH

Ms. Oster summarized the rationale for having a Historic Preservation Month and presented a schedule of events related to Historic Preservation Month. She recognized the highly successful Bismarck Historical Society Founder's Day Trivia and fund-raising event and highlighted the History Hotdish radio presentations available to listen to at <https://radioaccess.org/podcasts>. A list of events is included in the agenda packet and on the City website. Mr. Connelly encouraged the public to attend events and activities.

Vice Chair Nodland stated that her work on a presentation of the Bismarck Timeline project will be presented on May 28, 2024 at Touchmark Senior Living Center at 1000 West Century Avenue at 2p.m. She encouraged Commissioners to use that presentation in alternative ways to promote Bismarck history and culture to the public.

Mr. Jackson stated that the History Hotdish program was the most popular Digital Media Access (DMA) download in April and listed the next few events to be broadcast on DMA. Vice Chair Nodland encouraged the public to check it out.

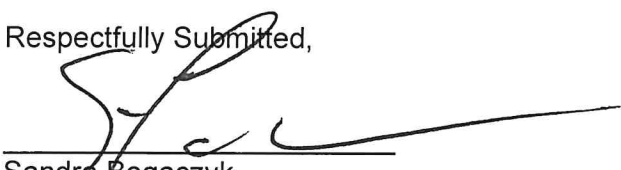
OTHER BUSINESS

There were no other items at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Vice Chair Nodland declared the meeting of the Bismarck Historic Preservation Commission adjourned at 3:52 p.m. to meet again on June 19, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. in the Tom Baker Meeting Room.

Respectfully Submitted,



Sandra Bogaczyk
Recording Secretary



Beth Nodland
Vice Chair