

SPRINGFIELD HISTORIC COMMISSION

Minutes: July 28, 2015

Present: Kerry Barbero
Bruce Berg
Kuri Gill
Tim Hilton
Terra Wheeler
Staff Molly Markarian

Excused Absence: Dannie Helm
Vincent Martorello

Guest: Liz Carter

Where: Jesse Maine Room
Date/ Call to Order: 07/28/2013 at 5:30 pm

ITEM 1: Public Comment

There were no public comments.

ITEM 2: Minutes Approval

The minutes from the May 26, 2015, meeting were approved as presented.

ITEM 3: Historic Moment

Commissioner Wheeler presented her historic moment on the challenges and lessons she's learned while researching and writing a National Register Nomination, for her UO HP class, on the Bowman-Hicks log cabin located in Washington's Blue Mountains. Constructed in 1923, the cabin is the last extant building connected to the logging camp town of Maxville and has high integrity. Historically, Maxville had a mixed race workforce and the camp was relocated there from LaGrande. The challenges are: 1) few original primary source documents remain, 2) those primary sources that have been reviewed have not been cited well, if at all; and 3) the building is on private land and the current owner sees the building as a potential liability. More research should be conducted on the building and the site to identify interpretive themes and significance.

ITEM 4: Land Use Applications

420 F Street

Jim Donovan will be submitting his land use decision regarding the Type I application that proposes projects. He will inform the homeowners not to proceed with the porch post work. Donovan wants to schedule a site visit with the owners to discuss the rear windows. Commissioner Gill is concerned with the amount of time it has taken the City to respond to the homeowner, especially since it was not an application that required CLG review. Staff Markarian stated that Donovan's division will soon be fully staffed, which should help speed up the process.

239 D Street

Staff Markarian reported that the City's code official wants either members of the CLG or staff to speak to the homeowners directly about the application and review process, and to encourage the homeowners to come in. A brief discussion followed, with the CLG deciding that a letter to the

homeowner would be more appropriate at this time. The letter will ask the homeowner to apply for a retroactive permit for work that has already been done on the property and additional work that is planned.

The CLG needs to address the importance of code enforcement with the City Council. Molly will ask the City Attorney to come to the September meeting.

233 9th Street

The homeowners expressed interest in removing an exterior door. Staff provided the property owner with a copy of the *Design Guidelines* that discusses character-defining features, such as historic doors.

ITEM 5: Lumber Heritage Context

Consultant Liz Carter requested feedback on the draft Lumber Heritage Context she has prepared. Commissioners are asked to email any questions and/or comments to Liz on or before August 4. Liz has used the year 1901 for the cutoff date for the first phase of the context study. It is important for us to convey the story of the lumber industry and how it ties to other projects that the City/Springfield is involved in. As requested, Molly will forward the City of Springfield's code criteria to Liz.

ITEM 6: Sub-Committee Reports

Springfield Selective RLS (Pre1915 RLS) Subcommittee: Commissioner Hilton reported that final editing of database entries is almost complete. The Committee still has the mapping phase of the project to work on, with assistance from the City's GIS staff.

Springfield Museum Display Subcommittee: Commissioners Hilton and Barbero announced that they have received great reviews concerning the *Citizen Historians* display. Hilton stated that the display has proven to be an effective tool in developing a dialogue with people from the local community. After the display period ends, some of the boards will be transferred to the Depot for replacing the current Chamber of Commerce display that has been in place there for well over a decade. Barbero recommends that if the CLG chooses to do another display in the near future, it should get a commitment from the Springfield Museum to let it stay up for at least 3 months, due to the investment of time and money.

ITEM 7: Commissioner Updates

Commissioner Wheeler prepared for her historic moment presentation.

Commissioner Gill responded to the 420 F Street application. She announced an upcoming workshop to be held September 16, place TBA. The workshop will discuss Federal and State preservation laws. For example, a law requiring owner consent prior to listing of a private property on the National Register and the state law of requiring cities and counties to preserve National Register properties are being reviewed.

Commissioner Berg had a conversation with the owners of 660 C Street. Berg believes that a City employee erred by informing the homeowners that their proposed sign doesn't meet sign guidelines. Berg believes that the sign does meet requirements.

Commissioners Hilton submitted his comments regarding the projects proposed by the owners of 420 F

Street.

Commissioner Barbero prepared the minutes for tonight's meeting.

It was discussed that the following items be put on the agenda for the September meeting: 1) Washburne Historic District period of significance/interest to resurvey District, and 2) CLG projects for the new grant cycle. There will be no historic moment in September to allow for more discussion time on business related matters.

ITEM 7: Staff Updates

Staff Markarian gave the following updates:

- *Springfield Times* insert will feature Springfield Museum exhibit instead of Lumber Heritage Context.
- Springfield Museum has renewed their domain name; website will be back in order soon. Museum has new hours.
- She and Commissioner Hilton will review boxes of remaining workbooks to determine how many to reorder.
- Springfield Administration Building (old Mill Street School) will not be torn down; Interim Superintendent is looking into emergency management funding for seismic retrofit and preservation funds for rehabilitation work.

Commissioner Gill stated that a CLG Grant could fund the preparation of a National Register Nomination for the building and specifications for rehabilitation work.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. Minutes recorded by Kerry Barbero.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 22, 2015.