

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

APPROVED

DATE: October 2, 2002

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: Council Chambers, 400 South Vine Street, Urbana, Illinois 61801

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rich Cahill, Sharon Irish, Alice Novak, Bill Rose, Trent Shepard, Art Zangerl

MEMBERS ABSENT: Liz Cardman

STAFF PRESENT: Rob Kowalski, Planning Manager; Michaela Bell, Planner

OTHERS PRESENT: G. D. Brighton

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM

Urbana Historic Preservation Commission Chair, Alice Novak, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The roll call was taken, and a quorum was declared.

2. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

There were none.

3. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

Ms. Irish moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Mr. Shepard seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as corrected by unanimous vote.

4. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

5. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

There was none.

6. CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were none.

7. OLD BUSINESS

- ***Definition of “Non-Contributing”***

Michaela Bell, Planner, gave a brief overview regarding the definition of non-contributing from the September 4, 2002 Historic Preservation Commission meeting. After much discussion by the Historic Preservation Commission, they agreed upon the following definitions:

Noncontributing: A building, structure, site or object, which may be part of a landmark or district, but does not possess historic, architectural, or archaeological significance or integrity per se. However, the relationship of these buildings, structures, sites or objects to those that are contributing may be important in the preservation of the landmark or district. Inclusion of these properties within a historic district subjects these properties to those design review standards and guidelines applicable to noncontributing properties.

Contributing: A building, structure, site or object that adds to the historical associations, architectural qualities, or archaeological values for which a property is significant because it was present during the period of significance, relates to the documented significance of the property, and possesses integrity or is capable of yielding important information about the period. Although most commonly used in historic district designations, this term may also be used when a property is considered for landmark status, which includes more than one resource, such as a house and a garage.

- ***Project Level of Review Table 1: Contributing***

Ms. Bell reviewed the changes that were made to this table during the last Historic Preservation meeting. The Commissioners reviewed and discussed the various types of projects in great detail. A few of the major changes agreed upon were as follows:

- ✓ Remove the phrase “To that of the original” under Minor Works from each of the Improvements, alterations, renovations not requiring a building permit that are listed in the table.
- ✓ Add “air conditioner” under Minor Works – Additions with No Review required.
- ✓ Add “doors” with windows under Other Works – Change of to read as “doors and windows”. Remove configuration after windows.
- ✓ Change “Additions” under Minor Works to “Site Modifications”.
- ✓ Add “steps” under Other Works to read “porch/deck/steps”.

- ***Project Level of Review Table 2: Non-Contributing***

The Historic Preservation Commission discussed the purpose for having “Demolition” listed on the table. They also talked about adding “parking lot” to the list, and decided it would not be necessary.

The commissioners agreed that Table 2 should mimic the wording changes made to Table 1. The commissioners agreed upon the following changes:

- ✓ “Gutters” under Other Works should have No Review required for both structures 49 years of age or less and structures 50 years of age or more.
- ✓ “Roof” under Other Works should have Historic Preservation Review for structures 50 years of age or more.
- ✓ Clarify the headings to read as such: “Structures 49 Years of Age (or less) at the Time of Designation” and “Structures 50 Years of Age (or more) at the Time of Designation”.
- ✓ “Shutters” under Other Works should have No Review for structures 49 years of age or less.

- ***Local Designations: Living with Historic Preservation—Educational Public Forum***

Ms. Bell noted that the September 25th Forum was cancelled. Staff has applied for a Certified Local Government (CLG) Grant for approximately \$1,500 through the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. Staff will be notified in December whether or not the City of Urbana will be awarded the grant. In the meantime, staff will begin planning for another forum for January or February of 2003.

Mr. Kowalski added that the grant would allow the City to help pay for expenses for people to come and speak at the forum. This will also provide some time for staff and the Historic Preservation Commission to talk about the topics and set some goals for the forum.

8. NEW PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were none.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- ***Certified Local Government Annual Report***

Ms. Bell briefly talked about the annual report. She noted that staff was required to submit an annual report every fiscal year.

- ***National Register Nomination***

Ms. Novak stated that she had a conflict of interest regarding the following national register nominations. Therefore, she turned this portion of the meeting over to Art Zangerl to be Acting Chair.

Mr. Zangerl explained that these were the commission’s first national register nominations. Since, they are considered Certified Local Governments, these nominations are not only approved at the state level, but they are also reviewed at the local level.

Women’s Gymnasium—University of Illinois
Women’s Residence Hall/West Residence Hall—University of Illinois

Mr. Rose moved that the Historic Preservation Commission approve both nominations. Ms. Irish seconded the motion.

Ms. Irish found them to be very interesting and significant in how the eastern part of the University of Illinois campus was formed. The buildings have integrity. Mr. Cahill added that it was nice to encourage the University of Illinois to put their buildings on the national register. It is one more level of protecting the buildings. Mr. Shepard noted that it would be nice to have two of Charles Platt’s buildings on the national register.

The roll call was as follows:

Mr. Cahill	-	Yes	Ms. Irish	-	Yes
Ms. Novak	-	Abstain	Mr. Rose	-	Yes
Mr. Shepard	-	Yes	Mr. Zangerl	-	Yes

The motion was passed by unanimous vote with one abstention.

Mr. Zangerl then turned the Chair over to Ms. Novak.

- *Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings*

Ms. Bell commented that staff provided these guidelines for future study sessions.

10. MONITORING OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Mr. Shepard mentioned that the Warm Air Research House had not been purchased by the University of Illinois as of yet.

11. STAFF REPORT

Mr. Kowalski reported on the following:

- ✓ The Historic Preservation Brochure: They have been printed and are ready for distribution. The commissioners all agreed that the brochure looked wonderful.
- ✓ The State Conference: Ms. Bell noted that she attended the conference and thought that it was very informative.

12. STUDY SESSION

There was none.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ✓ Ms. Irish commented on the inability to move the Garrett House. She felt that there were some real opportunities lost. Had they been able to get quite a bit more funding and quite a bit more time, it would have been possible to move the house.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Zangerl moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m. Ms. Irish seconded the motion. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

Submitted,

Rob Kowalski, Secretary