

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

URBANA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

APPROVED

DATE: March 3, 2010

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: City Council Chamber, 400 South Vine Street, Urbana, Illinois

MEMBERS PRESENT: Scott Dossett, Alice Novak, Kim Smith, Joan Stolz, Art Zangerl

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Trent Shepard, Mary Stuart

STAFF PRESENT: Robert Myers, Planning Division Manager; Rebecca Bird, Planner; Tony Weck, Recording Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: Ed Tiedemann, Marie Bohl, Donald Greeley, Marya Ryan, Brian Adams, Stewart Berlocher

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Historic Preservation Commission Chair, Alice Novak. Roll was taken and a quorum was declared.

2. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

There were none.

3. APPROVAL OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

The Commission reviewed the draft minutes of the January 6, 2010 meeting. Mr. Zangerl made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Dossett seconded the motion. Upon a vote, the Commission unanimously approved the January 6 minutes as presented.

4. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

5. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

There was none at this point in the meeting.

6. CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were none.

7. OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

8. NEW PUBLIC HEARINGS

- **HP-2010-COA-01; Application for a Certificate of Appropriateness to install awnings at #1 Buena Vista Court**

Ms. Novak opened the public hearing and asked for the staff report. Ms. Bird presented the staff report to the Commission. It was the recommendation of City staff that the Commission grant the Certificate of Appropriateness as the proposed awnings are consistent with the review criteria of Section XII-6.B of the Urbana Zoning Ordinance.

Following the staff report, Ms. Novak asked if there were any questions from the Commission. There were none. Ms. Novak then asked if there were any questions or comments from the audience.

The petitioner, Marya Ryan, briefly addressed the Commission, stating that she would be happy to answer any questions the Commission may have about her application. The Commission did not ask any questions.

Ed Tiedemann, a neighbor of Ms. Ryan's in Buena Vista Court, then briefly addressed the Commission, stating that he supported the application.

With no further questions or comments from the audience, Ms. Novak asked for Commission discussion of the case. Mr. Dossett stated that he would be pleased to support this application for Certificate of Appropriateness and that he was prepared to make a motion in that regard. Ms. Smith noted that a number of briefs had been issued by the National Parks Service relating to awnings on historically-designated structures and that the awnings being proposed for #1 Buena Vista Court were period-appropriate for this house.

With no further discussion, Mr. Dossett made a motion that the Commission grant the Certificate of Appropriateness for #1 Buena Vista Court as being consistent with the pertinent section of the Urbana Zoning Ordinance as well as the National Parks Service's briefs relating to awnings on historic structures. Ms. Stolz seconded the motion. With no further discussion of the motion, Ms. Novak asked for a roll call. Roll was taken and the votes were as follows:

Dossett – yes
Novak – yes
Smith – yes

Stolz – yes
Zangerl – yes

The motion carried unanimously and the Certificate of Appropriateness for #1 Buena Vista Court was granted. With no further questions or comments, Ms. Novak closed the public hearing for this case.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- **Presentation by Stewart Berlocher, “Looking for the Civil War in Urbana, Illinois: A Search for Surviving Civil War-Era Urbana Buildings Using the 1869 Ruger Panoramic Map**

Ms. Bird introduced Stewart Berlocher who gave a presentation on Civil War-era buildings surviving in Urbana. Mr. Berlocher used the 1869 Ruger Panoramic Map of the City as a guide to locating these structures. He noted that many of the artist renderings on the map closely resembled existing buildings and that it was his intent to locate as many of these buildings as possible. Once complete his information will be placed on a website for public use. Following Mr. Berlocher’s presentation the Commission expressed its support for his project.

10. MONITORING OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

There was nothing to report.

11. STAFF REPORT

Ms. Bird reported that City staff was in receipt of an application to designate the Historic Lincoln Hotel as a local landmark. She noted that this case would be presented to the Commission at its April 2010 meeting.

Ms. Bird also reported that the City’s Certified Local Government grant application was not selected to be funded this grant round. The application was to create a list of the most significant historic structures list similar to what the City of Rock Island, Illinois has created.

12. STUDY SESSION

There was none.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Myers announced that HB4823 and SB2559 had been introduced into the Illinois House of Representatives and the Illinois Senate and are both being considered in committee. Both bills propose to create a state historic tax credit which would reimburse owners of Illinois properties 25% of the cost of rehabilitating historic structures. Mr. Myers gave examples of projects which had benefitted from a similar program in the state of Missouri and noted that the sponsors of these bills are asking for public comment. He understands from the sponsors of these bills that those interested in providing feedback should contact their own state senator or representative.

14. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Mr. Zangerl moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Dossett seconded the motion. With all Commission members in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Submitted by:

Robert Myers, AICP
Planning Division Manager