

REPORT OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION / DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION

Wednesday, February 5, 2014 –4:00 p.m.

City Conference Room – County-City Building
1515 Strongs Avenue, Stevens Point, WI 54481

PRESENT: Lee Beveridge, Tim Siebert, George Hanson, and Mary Stroik.

ABSENT: Tom Baldischwiler

ALSO PRESENT: Director Michael Ostrowski, Economic Development Specialist Kyle Kearns, Cathy Dugan, Brandi Makuski.

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Discussion and possible action on the following:

1. Approval of the report from the December 4, 2013 HP/DRC meeting.
2. Review and recommendation of the City of Stevens Point Historic Preservation / Design Review Commission – Design Guidelines.
3. Review and recommendation of the amended Chapter 22, Historic Preservation / Design Review ordinance.
4. Adjourn.

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1. Approval of the report from the December 4, 2013 meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Siebert to approve the report from the December 4, 2013 HP/DRC meeting; seconded by Commissioner Hanson. Motion carried 4-0.

2. Review and recommendation of the City of Stevens Point Historic Preservation / Design Review Commission – Design Guidelines.

Director Ostrowski summarized the design guideline rewrite process, outlining major changes which include, removing regulatory language that has instead been placed in Chapter 22 of the Revised Municipal Code, and demolition language that was updated to reflect consistency with Chapter 22. Grammatical and formatting errors were also fixed throughout the document.

Economic Development Specialist Kearns added that the State of Wisconsin Historical Society preservation architect reviewed the entire document and provided comments, overall stating that the guidelines were well written. Those recommend comments have been incorporated into the latest version of the design guidelines.

Commission Siebert questioned the legality of sandblasting within the guidelines, specifically related to section 3.2.2(c), as the state's historical preservation architect indicated that any sandblasting to a historic structure is against the under Wisconsin State Statute. Mr. Kearns clarified that the guidelines are all encompassing and there may be certain instances where a building within the design review district is not historic. Furthermore, all reviews or requests for sandblasting would come before the historic preservation / design review commission for review. Director Ostrowski

added that language can be injected into the beginning of the guidelines which addresses the applicable state laws and statutes pertaining to historic structures.

Discussion occurred between the commissioners regarding vinyl siding and windows. Commissioner Hanson suggested requiring a grading scale for vinyl siding in instances where the replacement or installation is allowed, to avoid the poor quality vinyl siding or windows. Commissioner Beveridge added inserting a grade for brick mortar as well. Director Ostrowski concluded that grades for vinyl and brick mortar will be added to the design guidelines.

Commissioner Beveridge stated his comfort with the design guidelines especially as they were reviewed entirely by the state's historical preservation office.

Director Ostrowski finished by stating the design guidelines would next be reviewed by the plan commission and then final adoption by the common council. He also added that after adoption and implementation, an amendment will likely occur to the design guidelines to fix any overlooked errors, language, or formatting.

Motion by Commissioner Siebert to recommend approving the Historic Preservation / Design Review Commission – Design Guidelines to the Common Council with the recommended edits and changes; seconded by Commissioner Beveridge. Motion carried 4-0.

3. Review and recommendation of the amended Chapter 22, Historic Preservation / Design Review ordinance.

Commissioners pointed out a few grammatical errors with the ordinance, of which Director Ostrowski indicated will be corrected prior to adoption.

Commissioner Siebert asked for clarification on Division 5.03 regarding historic designation. He followed up with an example and indicated that purchases, historic designations, and fund raising can take longer than 6 months. Commissioner Hanson suggested extending the time frame outlined in Division 5.03(2) to 1 year instead of 6 months.

Motion by Commissioner Hanson to recommend approving Chapter 22, Historic Preservation / Design Review ordinance to the Common Council with the recommended edits and changes; seconded by Commissioner Siebert. Motion carried 4-0.

Cathy Dugan, 615 Sommers Street, asked to comment on an unrelated topic; preservation of historic structures, sites and potential districts identified within the 2011 Intensive Survey Report; upon which she advocated for the commission to review and discuss at an upcoming Historic Preservation/ Design Review Commission meeting.

4. Adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 4:42 p.m.