

Community Development Department

222 Lewis Street
River Falls, WI 54022
715.425.0900
www.rfcity.org



AGENDA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION January 8, 2018 at 5:30 pm City Hall Training Room

CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

Minutes of the December 13, 2017 meeting

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Non-Agenda Related Topics

CURRENT ITEMS

1. HPC Regroup
 - a. HPC Purpose and Intent (see Municipal Code §17.76)
 - b. HPC Membership
 - c. Meeting location change
 - d. Meeting time change
2. Historic Preservation Conference Report

OLD BUSINESS/UPDATES

1. River Falls Academy – Continued Discussion (School District survey [link](#))
2. Photo Project – Discussion and Update

CALENDAR

Next Plan Commission meeting February 14, 2018

ADJOURNMENT

***Council members may be in attendance for informational purposes only.
No official Council action will be taken.***

Post: City Hall Bulletin Board, January 5, 2018
Post: River Falls Public Library, January 5, 2018
Post: Police Department, January 5, 2018

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MINUTES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
Wednesday, December 13, 2017
5:15 pm
City Hall Training Room

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL – Meeting convened at 5:15 pm

Members Present: Heidi Heinze, Sean Downing, Mark Anderson, Jayne Hoffman, Denton Anderson, Pam Friede

Members Absent: None:

Others Present: Tony Steiner – City Planner, Amy Peterson, Development Services Director, Cindi Danke, Recreation Manager, River Falls, Mike Stifter, Operations Director, River Falls Park Board, Cecil Bjork, Ben Fuchs

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

Action was taken on the following;

- MSC: Hoffman/Friede to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2017 Meeting - Unanimous
- MSC: Hoffman/Friede to approve the minutes of the October 11, 2017 Meeting - Unanimous
- MSC: Hoffman/Downing to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2017 Meeting - Unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENT Cindi Danke spoke about current progress in designing Glen Park Pavilion. The intent is to display historic pictures related to park on the walls as photographic murals and HPC and Park Board should begin thinking of what they would like to see displayed. Also, there was a brief discussion on wayfinding signs in Glen Park as well as wayfinding issues in general.

OLD BUSINESS

Outline for Foster Cemetery Management Plan: HPC met jointly with the City Park Board. A brief review of a detailed outline for the Foster Cemetery Management Plan took place. It was suggested by staff that this would be a good candidate for a State Historic Society grant. It would also be a candidate for the Stewardship Grant Program because of its history with the DNR grant program. Both HPC and Park Board agreed that the emphasis is on preservation of a sensitive historic and ecological site in balance with the public use and enjoyment of the Park. Grants are yearly for both State Historical and DNR and HPC will keep this in their work plan going forward.

River Falls Academy: during the tour of the Academy in October Superintendent Benson stated the District would like the support of the HPC in razing of the Academy Building. It was the opinion of the HPC that they did not want to endorse taking the Academy Building down, but understood the School Districts issues and position in removing the building (the 20's and 40's additions) to facilitate a new addition to the Montessori School. The HPC would like to see more specifics on how historic elements of the building would be preserved, reused and memorialized in the new building.

Mike Stifter, School Board Member was present at the meeting and stated that the construction management team will be interviewing architects for the project soon. The School district will do what it can to incorporate elements of the old building back into the site and pay respectful homage to it's history. This project is part of a referendum that will take place in April. A successful referendum will allow design process to take place in spring/fall of 2018 with construction in summer/Fall of 2019.

The HPC agreed to put this issue on their February agenda for further consideration after the School District replies to the HPC concerns. Jayne will write a letter on behalf of the HPC to the School District asking for specific information in writing.

Post Card Project: Heidi talked to the River Falls Journal. They are willing to work with us. The idea is to resurrect the "Days Gone By" piece that used to run in the Journal. We will run 2 to 3 pictures a year and ask anyone who can contribute stories or history associated with the picture to contact the HPC. The information gathered can be used in development of a narrative for the postcard(s). The postcard project has ben very popular and successful and this will be one way to engage the public, build visibility for historic preservation and the HPC and encourage the public to come forth with pictures of their own that we can add to our growing collection.

Oral History Project: Sean reviewed a generic outline for this project. HPC felt that this is a good project, but will be time consuming for the HPC. It was decided that the project should start out small as a pilot project with volunteers and if successful the HPC could assess the project going forward. Sean will continue to work on the project and report back as it develops.

NEW BUSINESS

Agenda Items for January 10, 2018 Meeting

- HPC Work Plan for 2018
- Review and Discussion of Municipal Code 17.76 -Historic Preservation
- Photo Project Update

ADJOURNMENT- MSC: Friede /Hoffman to adjourn at 6:50 p.m. - Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,



Tony Steiner, City Planner