

Rockford Historic Preservation Commission

October 4, 2005

6:00 PM

Rockford City Hall, Conference Room B

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeanne Ludeke, Laura Bachelder, Valerie Olafson, Frank St. Angel

MEMBERS ABSENT: Alderman Doug Mark, Sally Faber, Scott Sanders

STAFF: Ginny Gregory, Christine Sledge

OTHERS: Chandler Anderson, Icon Development Group

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM by Chairman Val Olafson.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A **MOTION** was made by Frank St. Angel to **APPROVE** the minutes of September 13, 2005. The motion was seconded by Jeanne Ludeke and **CARRIED** by a vote of 4-0.

CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS - 421 South First Street

Chandler Anderson, Icon Development Group said that they want to put a fence. Valerie asked if the fence was joining the north fence. Chandler said that yes it was, and that it was going to join at the northwest corners just into the garage. The purpose of the fence is just for security. Frank asked if there were guidelines for fences and Valerie said just for picket fences. Frank thought that the fence should match but was wondering if there were specifics in the HPC guidelines. Ginny indicated that there is nothing in the guidelines to preclude this type of fence at this location.

A **MOTION** was made by Frank St. Angel to **APPROVE** to application as read; the motion was seconded by Laura Bachelder and **CARRIED** by a vote 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS

◆ Update of Petition to Withdraw from Brown's Hills/Knightsville Historic District

Ginny said that there was a public hearing at the last HPC meeting and that there was a lot of discussion. She said that it was voted to turn it down. She submitted paperwork to the Code and Regulation Committee of City Council as required by ordinance; the petition is on the Committee's agenda for their meeting on October 11, 2005.

◆ **Recommendations for new members**

Valerie asked Ginny if she had ever heard back from the woman she mentioned at the September meeting as having an interest in becoming a member. Ginny replied that she had not. She then asked Valerie if she had talked to Pam Hein. Valerie said that she had sent Pam an e-mail two months ago indicating that she wanted to talk to her about HPC and that she wanted to put her name in to become an HPC Board member. Val said that she told Pam that if she had reservations to let her know and she said that Pam said that it was ok. They were supposed to get together and talk, however they have not had a chance to yet. Val asked if HPC needed a resume from Pam and Ginny said yes and there is a form that they have to fill out. Ginny said that she would e-mail the form to Pam. Ginny will wait to hear from Scott regarding his recommendation of a landscape architect for HPC unless somebody had other suggestions. Frank said that he thought that would be best.

Frank questioned the expiration of Laura's term. Ginny said that the slot Laura filled had been vacant for a year. She checked with John Giliberti in Legal and he said her term starts at the point it became vacant, so in actuality she is shorted by one year of her term.

◆ **Strategic Plan 2002-2005**

Ginny distributed the *HPC – Strategic Plan 2002-2005* for members to review for next meeting. She felt that while the Commission has not met all of its goals, it has done some of the things it planned to do.

Ginny also said if there is anything in particular that anyone thinks that would be useful in a training session, to please let her know. Ginny thought that the legal training could be repeated because by the start of next year, there will be at least three or four members who have not been through it.

STAFF REPORT

OTHER

Mr. Jaycox sent a letter to HPC asking for any and all Certificates of Appropriateness the Commission has granted for windows, doors, or other openings in Haight Village from the beginning. Ginny said that she would be taking care of this request.

Ginny said that she had heard from an unhappy customer – the individual who used to own 1656 Ethel Avenue. He put in an application to replace a concrete stoop with wood, which he had already done. The Commission denied the request. He sold the house since then and did not tell the new owner that this was hanging out there and the new owner is suing. The former owner would like to come to the commission and have his case reviewed. Ginny checked with John Giliberti in Legal and he said that he couldn't do that – that it is between the two attorneys at this point. Ginny just wanted the Commission to be aware of this issue. If anyone from HPC hears from him, just tell him that we can not help him. His name is Pete Riggs; she did not have the names of the attorneys.

Paperwork for CLG grant applications through IHPA is due November 12, 2005. This is a reimbursement grant, so you have to pay the money up front and then they pay you back. However, they have improved the terms over previous years, increasing it from a 60/40 to a 70/30 ratio. She asked if anyone had any ideas. In the past, HPC has discussed translating the design guidelines into Spanish; this year's grants were awarded for a variety of activities – survey, newsletter, paying for two-workshops, printing copies of brochure on a map, website, and brochure. Valerie suggested a workshop with realtors. Ginny said that she would talk to Sally Faber and Vickie Krueger regarding

the workshop with realtors. Valerie said that it would be a good workshop because a lot of people are not aware that they are in a historic district until closing because the realtor never mentioned it.

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Sledge

Senior Clerk