

Rockford Historic Preservation Commission

June 3, 2008 - 6:00 PM

Conference Room B

Rockford City Hall

Present: Laura Bachelder, Sally Faber, Thomas Graceffa, David Hagney, Ald. Doug Mark, Mark McInnis

Absent : Maureen Flanagan

Staff : Ginny Gregory, Lucia Rinedollar, Reid Montgomery

Others: LuAnn Groh, Tiffany & Matt Krabbe, Mindy & Michael Wilson

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes

David Hagney made a **MOTION** to **APPROVE** the minutes for the meetings of May 6, 2008 and May 13, 2008 as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mark McInnis. The motion **CARRIED** by a vote of **4-0**.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Certificate of Appropriateness – 226 North Main Street

Ginny advised the Commission that Matt Provenzano, the property owner, notified her that this application is being withdrawn. They had the sign inspected by a structural engineer who informed them that it is not necessary to remove the sign.

NEW BUSINESS

Certificates of Appropriateness

♦ 946 North Second Street

In April the Community Foundation received a Certificate of Appropriateness to replace the flagstone porch and flagstone stepping stones with stamped concrete. LuAnn Groh was present to explain that they would like to change the new material to UniLock Brussels Block. The Commission agreed that they would like to see samples of the new material along with a detailed plan.

[Thomas Graceffa and Ald. Doug Mark joined the meeting during this discussion.]

Mark McInnis made a **MOTION** to have this item **LAI D O V E R** and to request that samples of the new material and a detailed plan and photos be provided so Commission members will have a clearer idea of what exactly is being changed. Sally Faber seconded the motion. The motion **CARRIED** by a vote of **6-0**.

♦ **1630 Greenmount Street**

Tiffany and Matt Krabbe explained that they would like to install a 4' French Gothic picket fence from the side of the house around the backyard. They also want to replace the front concrete stoop and walkway with new concrete and add a new concrete patio between the house and walkway. The patio would be at ground level and would have no railings. There would be landscaping between the sidewalk and patio. The stoop would come out to the edge of the steps.

Ald. Doug Mark made a **MOTION** to **APPROVE** the Certificate of Appropriateness for the installation of a 4' picket fence and the addition of a concrete patio as submitted, subject to Zoning approval. Mark McInnis seconded the motion.

Thomas Graceffa requested a Friendly Amendment requiring a railing be installed on the stoop for safety reasons. Ald. Doug Mark accepted the Friendly Amendment.

The motion, including the Friendly Amendment, **CARRIED** by a vote of **6-0**.

♦ **808 Garfield Avenue**

Mindy and Michael Wilson explained that the application is for the installation of a 4' picket fence along the driveway and a 4' privacy fence from the house to the neighbor's existing fence. Mark McInnis cautioned them to have a professional survey done and to make sure they have all items regarding the neighbor's property line put in writing.

David Hagney made a **MOTION** to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for the fencing at 808 Garfield Avenue as submitted, subject to Zoning approval. Sally Faber seconded the motion. The motion **CARRIED** by a vote of **6-0**.

♦ **1649 Oakes Avenue**

Ginny advised the Commission that the owner was unable to attend this meeting. The application is for fencing. It was agreed that more information is required regarding the type of fencing and gate to be used.

David Hagney made a **MOTION** to have this item **LAI D O V E R** and to request that more information be provided. Ald. Doug Mark seconded the motion. The motion **CARRIED** by a vote of **6-0**.

Grant Project – economic impact of local designation

Ginny distributed a table showing the assessed valuations in each of the Historic Districts along with those in what were determined to be comparable areas for each. The table also shows the homeownership rates in each area. Mark McInnis suggested using Ashland Avenue as a comparable area to Garfield. Ginny said this could be added.

[David Hagney exited the meeting.]

STAFF REPORT

Guidelines Revision

Ginny advised the Commission that she has been working on the preliminary steps towards revising the Commission Design Guidelines. She has reviewed approximately 80% of past Certificates of Appropriateness to determine what actions have been taken in the past. She is also generating a table of what other cities have in their guidelines that we do not have.

OTHER

Visitor

Ginny advised that the Advocacy Director from Landmarks Illinois visited last week. She noted that she was impressed with the tour of local sites.

IAHPC Awards Program

Ginny advised that nominations are being accepted for the 2008 IAHPC awards. The deadline for this is July 18, 2008.

515 Grove Street

This property is owned by the Swedish Historical Society who had presented the Commission with a list of repairs that would be completed on the property. Due to lack of progress towards these repairs, Ginny has advised the inspectors to proceed with necessary steps to obtain compliance to the Property Standards codes.

401 – 417 Kishwaukee Street

The owner of these properties has not completed the necessary repairs as agreed to at the April meeting. The Code Enforcement Division will do inspections and proceed as needed.

Mark McInnis requested that someone check the 4-family properties in the 400 block of South Second Street. He advised that there are boarded windows. Ginny will investigate.

220 South Madison Street

Ginny advised the Commission that the signage for the nCenter does not comply with the Certificate of Appropriateness issued in May. One sign installed is considered a banner which is

not allowed under the Zoning codes. The Zoning department is scheduling a meeting with Adam Smith, Director of Lifelong Learning, to discuss the issue.

Conferences / Camps

Ginny reminded everyone that if they are interested in the program below, the registration needs to be done soon.

- ◆ "Summer CAMP" offered by the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions in Dubuque in June

Chris Furney

Mark McInnis remembered Chris Furney who passed away recently. He was president of Haight Village and very involved in downtown Rockford. The Haight Village residents will be planting a tree in his memory. He will be missed by all.

Sally Faber made a **MOTION** to **ADJOURN** and Ald. Doug Mark seconded the motion. The motion **CARRIED** by a vote of **5-0**.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,
Lucia Rinedollar,
Sr. Administrative Assistant
Community Development Department