

MINUTES
BLOOMINGTON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING,
THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2014, 5:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL
109 E. OLIVE ST., BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Williams, Mr. Kennedy, Ms. Graehling, Mr. Sturgeon, Mr. Elterich

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Westerhout, Mr. Durham

OTHERS PRESENT: Frank Koehler, Interim Director of Planning and Code Enforcement
Vasudha Pinnamaraju, AICP, McLean County Regional Planning Commission Executive Director
Mark Woolard, City Planner

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Kennedy called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Woolard called the roll.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Adam Parla, 1215 Washington, inquired about the rules for the wood window replacement.

Allene Gregory, 1420 E. Olive, stated she had an S-4 property and had it painted. She never received a penny and asked why grants are given for painting and fences. She said there should be no money for painting or fences unless it is an icon for Franklin Park.

Mr. Williams stated the painting rules had changed. Mr. Kennedy stated the grant changed for fences.

Chairman Kennedy presented Mr. Dan Greene with a certificate of appreciation and the commission thanked him for his years of service.

MINUTES: The commissioners reviewed the minutes from the June 30, 2014 meeting and had no changes to such. Ms. Graehling moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Mr. Williams seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 5-0.

REGULAR AGENDA:

Case BHP-08-14. Review of the application submitted by Keith Thompson requesting an up to \$50,000.00 Harriet Fuller Rust Facade Grant consisting of improvements and repairs to decorative features, fascia, trim, molding, crowns, corbels, soffits, painting, masonry repairs, windows/doors and exterior lighting for the Gridley Mansion, 1859, located at 301 E Grove St.

Chairman Kennedy introduced the case. Mr. Woolard presented the estimates.

Chairman Kennedy asked if the concrete caps for the front porch will be poured in place and Mr. Thompson said they will. The side porch will have new limestone and will have no double steps but a triangle piece. The commission had a concern that the new concrete will look like the old

concrete. It will have the same edge. After reviewing the building's condition the consensus was that the building is dangerous and worthy of the additional funding. The commission discussed the various improvements. Mr. Williams stated this building does need this attention.

Mr. Sturgeon moved to approve Case BHP-08-14 in the amount of \$50,000.00. The motion was seconded by Ms. Graehling and passed by a vote of 5-0.

Case BHP-19-14. Review of petition submitted by Brad Williams requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for painting for the Augustus Elbe house, 1882, Victorian Era Queen Anne Cross Gable style located at 702 East Grove in the East Grove National Register Historic District.

Chairman Kennedy introduced the case. Mr. Williams recused himself due to his work on this project. He explained the project and how he will be doing it.

Mr. Elterich moved to approve Case BHP-19-14. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sturgeon and passed by a vote of 4-0.

Case BHP-20-14. Review of petition submitted by Brad Williams requesting an up to \$2,500.00 Funk, Jr. Historic Preservation Grant for painting for the Augustus Elbe house, 1882, Victorian Era Queen Anne Cross Gable style located at 702 East Grove in the East Grove National Register Historic District.

Chairman Kennedy introduced the case. Mr. Williams recused himself due to his work on this project. Mr. Williams stated this is his first grant.

Mr. Sturgeon moved to approve Case BHP-20-14. The motion was seconded by Ms. Graehling and passed by a vote of 4-0.

Case BHP-21-14. Review of application submitted by Justin Lee requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for work on a roof, downspouts, windows, fascia, soffit, and masonry for the Dr. Mammen House, Queen Anne style, 1897-1898, Arthur L. Pillsbury, located at 303 E. Chestnut Street in the Franklin Square National Register Historic District.

Chairman Kennedy introduced the case. The commission discussed each aspect of the repairs regarding the roof, water/ice dams, gutters, soffits, flashing and crown molding. Mr. Paul Castronova from Old Tyme Masonry stated he will be doing the work and that the roof will be removed to the sheeting. He said the roof will be put back as it was. He stated the plywood soffit will be changed back to tongue and groove. Mr. Williams suggested 1/2" bead board. Mr. Castronova stated the crown molding will be as close to original as possible and with the flashing copper which will match the roof. There was discussion on tuck pointing, cleaning and the preparation. Mr. Castronova said he will not power wash it and not use an acid but portland lime and smith coloring to fit the mortar to the brick. Mr. Williams stated the cedar lasts longer and would make any increase in cost is negligible. Douglas fir will be used on the soffits. Mr. Castronova said the corner flashing will separate the new flashing with a high grade caulk.

Mr. Williams moved to approve Case BHP-21-14 with the exception that they agree to use bead board for the ceiling and cedar on the fascia and eaves. The motion was seconded by Mr. Elterich and passed by a vote of 5-0.

Case BHP-23-13 Review of application submitted by Adam & Alison Parla, requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for repairs and painting of a front porch for the two story house, late 1850s, Italianate Style, located at 1215 East Washington Street.

Chairman Kennedy introduced the case. Mr. Adam Parla explained the changes as outlined in the photo with a standard square design using cedar. There was discussion on the railing and what may have been its original appearance, the code requirements, the floor joists and the floor boards. Mr. Williams stated old growth douglas fir is better and cedar is tough for floor boards.

Mr. Williams moved to lay over Case BHP-23-13 until we have more information which may include a potential original picture of the house, an appropriate rail design and a cross section rail design. The motion was seconded by Ms. Graehling and passed by a vote of 5-0.

Case BHP-03-14. Review of petition submitted by Adam & Alison Parla requesting an up to \$2,500.00 Funk, Jr. Historic Preservation Grant for repairs and painting of a front porch for the two story house, late 1850s, Italianate Style, located at 1215 East Washington Street.

Chairman Kennedy introduced the case. Mr. Woolard explained the estimate may need to be revised.

Mr. Williams moved to lay over Case BHP-03-14. The motion was seconded by Ms. Graehling and passed by a vote of 5-0.

Case BHP-22-14 Review of application submitted by Maria Novotny requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for a door for the Jesse B. Jordan House, American Four-Square, 1903, located at 903 E. Jefferson Street in the Davis-Jefferson Historic District.

Chairman Kennedy introduced the case. Mr. Williams recused himself. He stated the door in the photo is a storm door. The new door will swing out because the stairway is close. The new door will include period style hardware, plate, lock and knob.

Ms. Graehling moved to approve Case BHP-22-14. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sturgeon and passed by a vote of 4-0.

Case BHP-23-14. Review of petition submitted by Maria Novotny requesting an up to \$425.00 Funk, Jr. Historic Preservation Grant for a door for the Jesse B. Jordan House, American Four-Square, 1903, located at 903 E. Jefferson Street in the Davis-Jefferson Historic District.

Chairman Kennedy introduced the case. Mr. Williams recused himself from this case.

Mr. Sturgeon moved to approve Case BHP-23-14. The motion was seconded by Ms. Graehling and passed by a vote of 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chairman Kennedy introduced the discussion on the Comprehensive Planning with Vasudha Pinnamaraju, AICP, McLean County Regional Planning Commission Executive Director. Ms. Pinnamaraju presented the existing conditions analysis results. She stated Bloomington has many strengths based on the data which was drawn from a broad base of sources including local, state and federal.

Ms. Pinnamaraju stated Bloomington is strategically located with much transportation access. In the past 50 years the community grew 91%. The median household and family income is higher than state averages and labor shed is greater than 50 miles because of the transportation access. The census information revealed a labor commute of approximately 2000 people from the Chicago area with an anticipated increase anticipated with the high speed rail. The work force is highly skilled with an above state average amount of college graduates. The recreation provided is strong with a ratio of 9 acres of park area to every 1000 residence and approximately 25 miles of bike routes. Broadband is an important piece of infrastructure and Bloomington has had this in place which increases the competitiveness. Bloomington's crime rate is at an all-time low since reported in 1989. The economic landscape is changing. Champaign has claimed to be the Midwest technology hub and Bloomington can be a part of that. Economic development has shifted their focus to recruitment instead of retaining.

Ms. Pinnamaraju listed issues for consideration as retaining young labor force, aging infrastructure, fire response ability, crime logistics, income revenues and water supply. She stated health issues are tied to land planning. The District 87 total enrollment today is slightly less than it was in 2000. There was discussion on the importance of promoting the Bloomington historic areas. Ms. Pinnamaraju explained the demographics of the community responses and explained the website information is updated daily.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Koehler stated a grant for historic preservation activities is available and discussed possible activities.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Williams made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Graehling seconded the motion which passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Woolard, City Planner

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