

MINUTES OF THE ALBERT LEA HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Regular Meeting

March 12, 2024

5:30 pm – City Center

Call to order at 5:30pm by Megan Boeck.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nic Lang, Linda Bryan, Brad Kirchner, Tarrah Hall-Sather, and Larry Baker.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Stephanie Kibler, Tom Staker, and Darin Johnson.

STAFF PRESENT: Megan Boeck, City Planner.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Hall-Sather and second by Bryan to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Hall-Sather and second by Bryan to approve the February 13, 2024 meeting minutes as written. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1) Certificate of Appropriateness – 123 Broadway Ave S

Kirchner opened the public hearing at 5:38pm.

Boeck stated that the property owners have applied for a COA for storefront replacement including windows, entrance doors, and upper floor apartment

windows. The windows would be tempered glass with dark bronze aluminum finish and aluminum doors with transom frames.

Kirchner closed the public hearing at 5:42.

Motion by Lang and second by Hall-Sather to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness for 123 Broadway Avenue South as applied for including the upper windows so long as they are double hung.

Motion carried on a 4-0 voice vote.

2) Certificate of Appropriateness – 132 Broadway Ave S

Kirchner opened the public hearing at 5:42pm.

Boeck stated that the property owners have applied for a COA for façade renovations including removal of aluminum storefront windows to accommodate an entry door for stairs to the second floor. Façade renovations include recessed can lighting, dark bronze entry doors and storefront, and new painted cement board panels with matching trim and brick panels to match adjacent brick.

Kirchner closed the public hearing at 5:52.

Motion by Kirchner and second by Hall-Sather to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness for 132 Broadway Avenue South as applied.

Motion carried on a 4-0 voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

1) Design Guideline Update

Casie Radford and Todd Grover from MacDonald and Mack Architects presented the commission with the Heritage Preservation Guideline Update which aims to provide a consistent and clear design standard in addition to a framework that focuses on retention and preservation.

Radford also stated that the update includes changes that pertain to staff approvals, the distinction of contributing versus non-contributing properties, and

emphasis on preserving what is current even if it is not original as long as it is within the period of significance (1874-1953).

Lastly, Radford stated that the updated guidelines address property neglect and abandonment as well as enforcement of violations which was absent from the previous guidelines.

Motion by Kirchner and second by Lang to recommend approval of the updated Heritage Preservation Guidelines as presented. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION

Kirchner reminded the commissioners to reply to staff's email with availability so that a quorum for each meeting can be determined prior to the meeting night.

STAFF COMMUNICATION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Kirchner and second by Bryan to adjourn the meeting at 6:39pm.
Motion carried.

Megan Boeck, City Planner

Brad Kirchner, Vice-Chair