

MINUTES OF THE ALBERT LEA HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Regular Meeting

January 9, 2024

5:30 pm – City Center

Call to order at 5:35pm by Megan Boeck.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brad Kirchner, Linda Bryan, Tom Staker, and Nic Lang,

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tarrah Hall-Sather, Stephanie Kibler, Darin Johnson, and Larry Baker.

STAFF PRESENT: Megan Boeck, City Planner.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Kirchner and second by Bryan to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Kirchner and second by Bryan to approve the November 14, 2023 meeting minutes as written. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1) Certificate of Appropriateness – 232 Broadway Ave S

Staker opened the public hearing at 5:36pm.

Boeck stated that the property owner has applied for a COA for new storefront signs displaying the business name with bold lettering and sufficient contrast between lettering. Staff confirmed the sign would not be illuminated.

Joey Meyer from Quality Sign Solutions explained that the sign would not be illuminated, has no lights or electrical components.

Staker closed the public hearing at 5:40.

Motion by Lang and second by Kirchner to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness for 232 Broadway Avenue South.

Motion carried on a 4-0 voice vote.

2) Certificate of Appropriateness – 134 William St W

Staker opened the public hearing at 5:42pm.

Boeck stated that the property owner has applied for a COA for exterior renovations that include matching existing corrugated metal to the area that separates the first and second floor.

Staker stated that he opposed the metal due to moisture collecting and causing bigger issues to the building.

Kirchner said it does improve the look but will always encourage the use of other materials first. He said he understands that it has existed this way for many years.

Staker closed the public hearing at 5:54pm.

Motion by Lang and second by Bryan to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness for 134 William Street West.

Motion carried on a 3-1 voice vote with Staker voting Nay.

NEW BUSINESS

1) Marion Ross Long Term Maintenance Request

Boeck provided an update on proposed improvements which relate mostly to an ADA compliant entryway.

COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION

Kirchner stated that a panel is missing at the Knutson building and should be replaced.

STAFF COMMUNICATION

Boeck informed the commission that the sub-committee is going to review the draft heritage preservation guideline update and that the consultants should be ready to present the full document to the commission by March.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Kirchner and second by Bryan to adjourn the meeting at 6:01pm.
Motion carried.

Megan Boeck, City Planner

Tom Staker, Chair