

MINUTES OF THE ALBERT LEA HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Regular Meeting

June 13, 2023

5:30 pm – City Center

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

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tom Staker.

STAFF PRESENT: Megan Boeck, City Planner.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Bryan and second by Kibler to approve the April 4, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1) CLG Grant and Request for Proposals

Boeck explained that the City of Albert Lea was awarded \$20,000 to update the guideline for the Commercial Historic District. An RFP was sent out with a proposal deadline of June 23, 2023. A sub-committee of the HPC should be formed to review proposals and work with staff to select finalists to move on to the interview phase.

Nic Lang and Brad Kirchner volunteered to form the sub-committee. Lang noted that the guideline updates need to include more than just aesthetics and that structural integrity is going to have to take precedent.

2) VFW Emergency Abatement 131-137 Clark St E

Boeck stated that city staff was notified of falling bricks in the alley of 131-137 Clark St E. After an inspection of the exterior, it was found that a portion of the masonry wall is severely deteriorated and will require a rebuild. After an interior inspection, more deficiencies were found. Forty feet of the ceiling/roof has a roughly 6-inch deflection that will require repair.

The overall goal is to complete the repair and save the building.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1) Certificate of Appropriateness – 122 Main St W

Kirchner opened the public hearing at 5:42pm.

The owner of the property has applied for a COA for tuck-pointing repairs due to deteriorated and falling brick.

Motion by Lang and second by Kibler to approve the COA for tuck-pointing repairs at 122 Main St W. Motion carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

Kirchner closed the public hearing at 5:44pm.

2) Certificate of Appropriateness – 106 Broadway Ave S

Kirchner opened the public hearing at 5:44pm.

Boeck stated that the owner applied for a COA for historical signage on the east side of the building. The signage proposed is a tooled bronze plaque with a list of all the names and dates of businesses that once occupied the building.

The example provided has the wording “oldest building in Albert Lea”. Kirchner noted that the wording is incorrect and should be changed to “oldest existing building in the Historic District”.

Motion by Johnson and second by Hall-Sather to approve the COA for historical signage at 106 Broadway Ave S with wording changed. Motion carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

Kirchner closed the public hearing at 5:56pm.

COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION

None.

STAFF COMMUNICATION

Baker commented on the windows installed at 104 Broadway Ave S and that he is impressed with the improvement.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Kibler and second by Hall-Sather to adjourn the meeting at 6:17pm.
Motion carried.

Megan Boeck, City Planner

Brad Kirchner, Vice-Chair