



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes - Final

Heritage Preservation Commission

Thursday, November 18, 2021

6:00 PM

Virtual via Lifesize

In efforts to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the Heritage Preservation Commission meeting will be conducted through video conferencing. You may participate in the meeting with the following links.

<https://call.lifesizecloud.com/4796124>

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To view and listen to the meeting only please use the following link:

<https://stream.lifesizecloud.com/extension/4796124/c7d43560-fea7-4613-9625-63af875bee87>

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6.02pm.

Roll Call

Present: 5 - David Riel, Laura Godden, Jennifer Morris, Mackenzie Mindel, Monica Gorski

Excused: 2 - John J. Satory, Janet Allen

Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of the October 28, 2021 Meeting Minutes.

David Riel moved to approve the minutes. Laura Godden seconded. The motion passed 4-0 by voice vote.

Agenda Items:

2. Election of Vice-Chair.

David Riel nominated himself for Vice-Chair of the Commission. No other nominations were made. The motion to nominate David Riel as Vice-Chair was passed 5-0 by voice vote.

3. [21-1105](#)

Review of a Certificate of Appropriateness for the property located at 924 Cass Street. (10th & Cass District)

Staff stated that the owners have responded with an update and stated that they hadn't started the project yet but were planning on starting in within the

next couple of weeks and would then provide a further update. Laura Godden moved to refer the item for 30 days. David Riel seconded. The motion passed 5-0 by voice vote.

4. [21-1566](#)

AN AMENDED ORDINANCE to amend various sections of Chapter 20 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse regarding Historic Preservation.

Staff stated that the attached ordinance is the final version to be adopted by the Common Council. Staff also stated that the Community Risk Management Department had reviewed it and had no concerns. Staff did change the date to April 2022 to allow for letters to be sent property owners of local landmarks informing them of the change and allowing them to request that their property/landmark be removed if they so choose. David Riel moved to approve. Mackenzie Mindel seconded. The motion passed 5-0 by voice vote.

5. Discussion and review of proposed amendments to the Downtown Historic District design standards for signage.

Staff provided information to the Commission that was compiled by Kayla Price, the Historic Preservation Intern, on concerns with signage in the Downtown Historic District. It was discovered through our research that there were more issues with the process and number of permits than there was actual design requirements. The only real issue is if any existing sign is considered non-conforming, it is really hard for Downtown business/building owners to take them down for repairs or maintenance and then put them back up. Ordinance is intended to allow properties in the Downtown Historic to be able to take down their sign for cleaning or repair and put it back up. However, any new signs would have to meet non-conforming use restrictions per Community Risk Management preference. Staff hopes to have a more final amended ordinance for the Commission to review at their next meeting.

6. Discussion on 2022 Most Endangered Properties List.

Mackenzie Mindel reminded the Commission that staff suggested that each Commission member think about 1-3 buildings they would like to assess for consideration for the 2022 list. Staff compiled a list of each commission member's suggestions. Mackenzie Mindel expressed her desire to look more at homes in neighborhoods to discuss in an effort to preserve architectural and neighborhood character. Staff reminded the Commission that only two needed to be selected to replace the two that were removed.

Jennifer Morris left the meeting

Laura Godden expressed concern about including properties if the owner is working to improve the property. David suggested discussion with the whole commission before moving forward should be considered. This item was tabled until the next meeting.

7. December 2021 meeting date.

The December meeting will be held on December 23, 2022.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59pm.

Notice is further given that members of other governmental bodies may be present at the above scheduled meeting to gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibility.

NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY

Requests from persons with a disability who need assistance to participate in this meeting should call the City Clerk's office at (608) 789-7510 or send an email to ADAcityclerk@cityoflacrosse.org, with as much advance notice as possible.