

## CITY OF MISHAWAKA

### HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION April 5, 2016

A regular meeting of the Mishawaka Historic Preservation Commission was held Tuesday, April 5, 2016 in Room 205, City Hall, 600 E. Third, Mishawaka, IN.

#### **Meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm.**

Commission members in attendance: Terry DeMaegd, Dave Eisen, Judy Gray (left at 4:50), and Nancy Seidler. Advisory members present: Alan Grzeskowiak, Shirley McAlister, Thomas Morris, Jason Stoller, and Cliff Zenor. Staff: Christa Hill. Public: Dave Straughn.

#### **There was not a quorum. The following items were discussed:**

##### **Minutes:**

Nancy Seidler asked that her name be added to the minutes of the March 1, 2016 meeting minutes. Christa Hill thanked Terry DeMaegd for putting them together in Staff's absence.

##### **HPC 16-01: Certificate of Appropriateness for Thomas Morris to construct and addition, add brick veneer and headers to garage, replace windows, change color scheme and replace driveway at 128 N Brook Ave.**

Christa read Doug Merritt's comments into the record. Thomas Morris gave a brief summary of what he was doing. When the garage was to be built, there was also planned a covered walkway and the garage was supposed to be brick. For some reason, these items were not built as proposed. The original garage was sunken, located under the front porch. You can still see the ramp into the basement. Cliff Zenor had looked at the windows. Some of the double hung still work, but there are replacement windows on an addition. He then questioned why new windows versus restoring the existing windows. Mr. Morris agrees the storm windows had to go. The type of replacement he is doing a pocket replacement. The trim and jams stay intact, with new glass. Cliff asked if specific window restoration was considered. Mr. Morris hadn't thought of that since they are all mismatched. There are several different types and brands of windows in the house right now. Shirley McAlister asked about colors. Mr. Morris passed around the color and material examples.

Terry asked if we could have a special meeting. Christa needs to post any meeting 48 hours in advance. An email will be sent to the rest of the members regarding attendance at a meeting next Tuesday, April 12 at 4pm.

##### **Committee Reports**

**Plaques:** The Midwest Masonry quote for installing a plaque at the Eberhart-Major House needs to be handled like every other City expense, which involves creating a purchase order and making sure the contractor is registered with the City.

**Staff Update:** There is a house at 2340 Main Street in Normain Heights the City is looking to acquire and demolish for expansion of Fire Station #2. Normain Heights is a National District, not a local one, so no action needs to be taken by this Commission. The acquisition will ultimately go before the Common

Council. Nothing in Normain Heights is considered notable or outstanding. This specific house had numerous Code violations and was eventually sold at tax sale.

Christa also received a call from Ruth Pavich, who is active in the Normain Heights Neighborhood Association. She is interested in making Normain Heights a Local District. Being a National District doesn't give any protection. Houses within Normain Heights are either contributing or non-contributing. Ken Prince is meeting with the Neighborhood Association tomorrow morning. It is a large neighborhood and in the past, for example the Mishawaka Avenue District, the Council was not interested in approving a District when there were homeowners opposed to being included. Cliff Zenor and Judy Gray were on the Commission when the Mishawaka Avenue District was denied. Cliff suggests inviting Mrs. Pavich or representatives from the Neighborhood Association to the meeting to explain the process. Judy agrees education would have gone a long way for the Mishawaka Avenue district; people didn't understand.

#### **Old Business:**

**Signs:** The Historic Preservation Month signs have been ordered and delivered. One was on display for everyone to see. Christa will send a letter/email to everyone who participated last year or is a local landmark or in a local district. Could it be put on the website or Facebook?

**Walking Tour/Training:** Earlier today, Kate Voelker sent around a schedule for the Walking Tour for next meeting. We will be visiting 722 Lincolnway East, 732 Lincolnway East, 816 Lincolnway East and 834 Lincolnway East. Since Todd Zieger will be leading the tour, it also counts as education towards our CLG. The schedule started at 4pm, but Christa asked if we could have a short meeting first, to satisfy Open Door Act, where members could pick up signs.

**Gym Floor Pieces:** The first Common Council meeting is the same day as the HPC meeting (both moved due to election day), and April 18 is too short of notice, so we will ask to be put on the May 16 meeting. Cliff had been in contact with some of the recipients. Christa will send an official letter inviting a representative to the meeting. Terry DeMaegd said one of the Council members thought when everyone left the meeting it was disruptive. Ken Prince and the Mayor won't be leaving. You are allowed to leave the meeting once your item is over.

**Mishawaka Museum:** We were first contacted by Mr. Don Heirman last summer regarding his idea for a Mishawaka Museum. At that time, Christa and Terry responded to his email. At the beginning of this year, Mr. Heirman sent another email/letter asking specifically for support. As we are unsure how to support, letter to Mr. Heirman or speak at a meeting, we will invite Mr. Heirman to an HPC meeting so we can hear his presentation and ask questions.

#### **New Business:**

**Mary Watt's Landmark Status:** Last year, Mary Watt submitted paperwork for Landmark status for 1207 Prospect. Terry doesn't think there is enough in the application to support a Landmark. Cliff even contacted Todd Zieger at Indiana Landmarks and he couldn't make a case for Landmark status either. Christa had also contacted Todd Zieger for some background since this house isn't included in the 1995 Survey. Terry asked the information be scanned and emailed to all members.

**Memorial Day Parade:** Bryan Tanner had the idea of participating in the Memorial Day Parade. We have a banner and people could walk or Terry has a pick up truck to ride in. There is no fee to be part of it. The membership will be polled on who is available.

**T-shirts:** Alan Grezkowiak researched t-shirts. Graphie Tees was \$8.50 to \$12 per shirt depending on how many were purchased. Its Topps was cheaper per shirt, but was going to charge for set up and

shipping. Christa is going to check with the Mayor's office regarding using the City's logo on the shirt. Members will decide individually if they would like to purchase a shirt.

**Historic Places Conference:** Christa mentioned the Preserving Historic Places Conference again. The deadline for early registration has passed. Cliff wondered if there are still scholarships available. Last year, Terry had his conference fees paid for.

**Membership Lists:** Christa verified that all the information on the membership list was correct. Changes will be made and resent to all members.

**Privilege of the Floor**

Dave Eisen passed around a flyer for an open house at Hannah Lindahl Children's Museum on Saturday April 30. In addition to the museum exhibits, there will be some old tractors and Twin Branch students dressed up as historical characters.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.

---

Terry DeMaegd, Chairman

---

Christa Hill, Secretary