

CITY OF BELVIDERE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES
January 24, 2023
5:30 pm
City Hall, 401 Whitney Boulevard

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sonya Dobberfuhr, Chair
Alexandra Omiotek
David Larson
Dawn Brooks

Staff Present:

Gina DelRose, Community Development Planner

Members Absent:

Claudia Colla, Vice-Chair

Sonya Dobberfuhr called the meeting to order at 5:43pm.

MINUTES: It was moved and seconded (Brooks/Omiotek) to approve the minutes of the October 25, 2022 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Work Plan

2023 Awards Program: Gina DelRose reminded commissioners to keep an eye out for potential award winners.

There was discussion regarding a property on North State Street that has slowly been undergoing renovations.

Promotional/Fundraising Events: Gina DelRose stated that Maggio's Pizzeria has agreed to host a fundraising night on February 7th. Details will be released when available.

Gina DelRose provided a recap of past fundraisers.

Barbara Volk suggested having a historic house tour/walk or a garden tour.

David Larson confirmed that refreshments would be included in the garden tour.

There was discussion regarding what time of year would be most appropriate for gardens.

It was suggested that a free plane ride that includes a flyover of your house could be raffled off as a fundraiser.

Sonya Dobberfuhr stated that she would like the next scavenger hunt to focus on sites that no longer exists in Belvidere. Ms. Dobberfuhr stated that everything could be located within a 3 block radius so it's a walkable event,

A fashion show explaining the reason why clothing was styled certain ways was discussed.

David Larson stated that if another Stained Glass Window Tour is held, it is important to have the right narrative.

There was discussion regarding the restoration of the Methodist Church's windows.

Dave Larson stated that getting emails and follow-up from past fundraising attendants would be good.

It was discussed that if the taxpayers support historic preservation than the City Council will follow.

Hosting a downtown bar crawl/wine walk would be a way to highlight the downtown businesses and historic buildings they are located in.

Maintenance Small Grant: Gina DelRose stated that she sent out letters to eligible properties and has received one application so far.

Gina DelRose stated that two projects from last year have not been completed. St. John's Church delayed their brickwork until this Spring and Ms. DelRose stated that she has not heard from Brechon Dental although the project appears to be completed.

The Commission directed Gina DelRose to reach out to Brechon Dental one last time before their grant award is forfeited.

10 Year Plan: The Commission felt that previous discussions regarding fundraisers to garner community support and interest is part of the goals within the 10 Year Plan.

Expenditures: No updates.

Friends of Preservation: Gina DelRose explained the intent behind the Friends of Preservation meetings and stated that the meetings never gained much traction.

The Commission stated they would like to try hosting a meeting again. The Commission suggested finding a sponsor that would also provide a demonstration to attendees.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Images of American Belvidere and Boone County

Royalties: No updates.

Book Sales: No updates.

DISCUSSION:

Staff Report: None.

NEXT MEETING DATE: February 28, 2023

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:46 pm.

Recorded by



Gina DelRose
Community Development Planner