

**CITY OF BELVIDERE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES
June 25, 2019
5:30 pm
Sips & Sprinkles' Lobby
221 W. Locust Street**

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Lisa Kummerow, Chair
David Kummerow, Vice Chair
Filitsa Platopoulos
Becky Tobin
Kris Bryan
Alexandra Omiotek

Staff Present:

Gina DelRose, Community Development Planner

Members Absent

Anna Pivoras

With a quorum present, Chair Lisa Kummerow called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm.

MINUTES: It was moved and seconded (Omiotek/Tobin) to approve the minutes from the May 28, 2019 meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Certificate of Appropriateness- 704 North State Street- Gina DelRose provided a recap of the request for an elevator lift on the front porch.

Maria Alequin, property owner, stated that the hand railing for the porch was kept and being stored on the property so that it can be reinstalled at a later date.

Kris Bryan questioned the materials and color being used on the elevator lift.

Bob Conroy, EHLS, stated that the lift will be tan, similar to the color on the residence, and it will not be a permanent fixture. Mr. Conroy stated that they are constructing a bridge over the steps to support the lift instead of cutting into the porch.

It was motioned (Tobin/L. Kummerow) to approve the certificate of appropriateness allowing an elevator lift to be installed. Motion carried with a 6-0 roll call vote.

Landmark Application- 401 North Main Street- Lisa Kummerow opened the public hearing at 5:39pm.

Gina DelRose presented the staff report dated June 19, 2019. The church was built in 1907 and still has the original stained glass windows as well as an organ from 1924. Staff recommends approval of the request to landmark St. John's Church.

David Kummerow questioned if the applicant realized that by landmarking the building they would be subject to needing a Certificate of Appropriateness for exterior renovations.

Marion Thornberry, applicant, stated that he was aware of the requirements.

Gina DelRose stated that she presented the notion of landmarking the property to the church's council and discussed the impacts with them.

Marion Thornberry stated that the church would like to be eligible for maintenance grants in the future and knows that they must pursue National Registry designation in order to obtain tax credits.

Lisa Kummerow closed the public hearing at 5:43pm.

It was motioned (Tobin/D. Kummerow) to approve the landmark application request for 401 N. Main Street. Motion carried with a 6-0 roll call vote.

Downtown Façade Improvement Grant- Gina DelRose stated that 15 applications were submitted totaling \$70,850.00 but only \$16,800.00 is available. Ms. DelRose stated that smaller amounts of money could be granted to the majority of applicants, however, the amount may be too small to make a difference, causing the project to be cancelled. Ms. DelRose stated that the alternative would be to choose a few projects that the Commission believes would have the greatest impact and award them larger amounts.

Becky Tobin stated that since it is a 50/50 reimbursement grant, if approved projects are completed under budget, then a second round of grant money created by the savings could be distributed.

Gina DelRose discussed each individual project and referenced work that property owners have done on their own previous to the grant announcement as well as explaining why some projects were not appropriate for the grant due to improper building materials and window styles.

It was the consensus of the Commission to focus on a few of the bigger projects with the option of a second round of grant disbursement if there are unused funds.

It was the consensus of the Commission to focus on projects that are in the core downtown area.

It was motioned (Tobin/Bryan) to award the following projects: 209 N. State Street- \$5,000.00; 137 South State Street- \$1,500.00; 515 S. State Street- \$2,500.00; 319 S. State Street- \$2,500.00; 140 N. State Street- \$2,500.00 and 104 N. State Street - \$2,800.00. Second round projects (if applicable) would be 220 Logan Avenue, 209 S. State Street and 210 N. State Street. Motion carried with a 6-0 roll call vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Work Plan

2020 Awards Program: None.

Promotional/Fundraising Events: Gina DelRose stated that a third property owner has agreed to participate in the ghost tour fundraiser. Ms. DelRose stated that planning for the fundraiser will begin after Heritage Days.

Leath Warehouse Update: No updates.

Maintenance Small Grant: Gina DelRose stated that the grant recipient has not requested reimbursement yet.

10 Year Plan: No updates.

Expenditures: No updates.

Friends of Preservation: No updates.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Images of American Belvidere and Boone County

Royalties: No updates.

Book Sales: No updates.

DISCUSSION:

Newsletter- None.

US Route 20- Gina DelRose stated that she provided handouts at the Ida Public Library's Kick Off to Summer Reading Party.

Gina DelRose stated that the Commission along with local business owners still have not received their signage.

David Kummerow stated that Lisa Kummerow and he were asked to be the directors of the Illinois division of the Historic US Route 20 Association.

COMMUNICATIONS/PLANNING REPORTS:

Staff Report:

Becky Tobin reminded the Commission that Heritage Days was approaching.

Kris Bryan stated that he would be hosting a vintage market as part of the Heritage Days festival.

Mindy Long stated that even though Leah Bush is no longer working at the Boone County Museum of History, the Ida Public Library and Boone County Museum of History are moving forward with the website previously discussed. Mindy Long stated that there will be a presentation at the Boone County Museum of History in August regarding the website.

Mindy Long stated that she is working on a grant and that a local youth is helping her with the research. He will be helping with the upcoming downtown tours as well.

Mindy Long stated that the Ida Public Library will be working the Boone County Museum of History to host a cemetery tour in September. Ms. Long stated that actors are still needed.

NEXT MEETING DATE: July 23, 2019

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Recorded by



Gina DelRose

Community Development Planner