CITY OF BELVIDERE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES June 25, 2024

5:30 pm City Hall, 401 Whitney Boulevard

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Staff Present:

Sonya Dobberfuhl, Chair

Gina DelRose, Community Development Planner

Kim Coniglio Dawn Brooks Alexandra Omiotek David Kummerow Lisa Kummerow Natali Monaghan

Members Absent:

Sonya Dobberfuhl called the meeting to order at 5:36pm.

MINUTES: It was moved and seconded (Brooks/Coniglio) to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2024. Motion carried with a 7-0 voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Downtown Façade Improvement Grant Program

Gina DelRose gave a recap of the four applications and stated that there is enough funding for all of them.

David Kummerow stated that he thinks all the projects are worthwhile and will be an improvement to the downtown area.

Sonya Dobberfuhl agreed. Ms. Dobberfuhl stated that although she is not a fan of vinyl siding on historic buildings, it is an improvement to the siding the building currently has.

It was moved and seconded to recommend fully funding all four grant applications. Motion carried with a 7-0 voice vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Work Plan

2023 Awards Program: Gina DelRose gave a recap of the history and purpose of the awards program.

Promotional/Fundraising Events: Gina DelRose stated that the Commission has been focusing on smaller events such as scavenger hunts and stained-glass window tours to be held in the fall.

Lisa Kummerow suggested a haunted house tour.

A walking ghost tour was also discussed.

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Maintenance Small Grant: Gina DelRose stated that the grant was put on hold in 2024 due to lack of funding but the Commission's funds have increased.

It was decided to offer the grant in 2025.

10 Year Plan: None.

<u>Expenditures:</u> Gina DelRose stated that money was transferred from the printing budget to Community Development to cover the costs of printing books.

<u>Friends of Preservation:</u> Gina DelRose gave a recap of the Friends of Preservation events and stated that attendance levels were low.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Images of America: Belvidere and Boone County, Boone County Journal Postcard Books, A Walk Through Time

Royalties: Gina DelRose stated that all the Images of America book have sold and the Commission previously decided not to purchase more because of the upfront costs. Books are still selling online and royalties are sent in \$75 increments.

<u>Book Sales</u>: Gina DelRose stated that there are still postcard books available for purchase and the A Walk Through Time books are still selling well at the Boone County Museum of History.

Sonya Dobberfuhl provided a break down of profits based on where the book is sold.

DISCUSSION:

Gina DelRose stated that elections will be held next month.

<u>Staff Report:</u> Gina DelRose provided a staff update regarding new businesses locating to Belvidere and a potential courthouse renovation project.

NEXT MEETING DATE: July 23, 2024

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:39 pm.

Recorded by

Gna DelRose

Community Development Planner