

Town of Newburgh
Historic Preservation Commission
Minutes September 14, 2017

Members Present:

Jim Renne, Steven Shoemaker, David Wills, Jeff Cox, Randee Bugher, Steward Sebree

Administrative Present:

Stacie Krieger, Council Liaison; Attorney; Raymond Dudlo, Legal; Tavi Wydicks, Zoning Administrator

Advisory Present:

None

Members & Administrative Absent:

Troy Wells & Brent Grafe

Citizens Present:

Janet Richard – 221 State Street

Reading, Correction and Approval of Previous Minutes:

Steve Shoemaker made a motion to accept the minutes.

David Wills seconded. No discussion. Motion was approved.

REPORTS:

Town Council Liaison:

Stacie Krieger let the Historic Preservation Commission know that the Parks Board has their Public Forum on September 20th to work on their 5-Year Master Plan. Ms. Krieger also stated that there will be meet and greets going on to promote the proposed pavilion. Ms. Krieger will be having one at her house and they are looking for donations but also to get the information on the pavilion out to the public.

Indiana Landmarks Southwest Field Office:

Jim Renne stated that the old Greyhound building in downtown Evansville has been granted a historical rating and along with that rating and the renovations a convention of seventy five (75) vintage buses meets there. That convention means 75 hotel rooms are purchased, meals are bought and shopping is done. Mr. Renne stated that it goes to show that preserving our historic structures can benefit a town.

Jeff Cox said he has been talking to Helen Zimmerman from Historic Newburgh Inc. about HPC and HNI cooperating more. One of the things they have been thinking about is education and how they can educate the public on preserving our historic districts. Joe Griffin from the University of Evansville was contacted about proving an intern to help create an education program. This intern would do research on the impact of economic development and eventually come up with a series of presentations. They have not found an intern yet but Mr. Cox will keep everyone posted on the project.

Staff:

Tavi Wydicks stated that there is a new order form for the historic plaques that has been approved by Town Council. Ms. Wydicks will be at the Parks Public Forum with the plaque and the historic plaque order forms. Mrs. Wydicks will also be sending the forms out to any residence that has received an historic rating.

Ms. Wydicks received notification this week that the house at 221 State Street has been added to the Indiana Register of Historic Sites and Structures. The homeowner, Janet Richard, petitioned to have her house added and it was accepted.

Certified Local Government:

No Report

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

Application for COA – 221 State Street, Janet Richard

Tavi Wydicks stated that the homeowner, Janet Richard, is requesting to paint the brick on the exterior of the home. Ms. Richard has provided pictures of the patch work of the brick and feels the only way to make it look clean is to paint it. A recommendation was made that Ms. Richards fix and repair the brick before painting the brick. Ms. Richards is concerned the cost associated with repairing the brick first to see if will match only to end up painting it in the end. Ms. Richard stated that she is getting quotes on getting the bricks tuck pointed before she has them painted.

Ms. Richard was asked what her plans are for the home. Ms. Richard replied that she is keeping all the existing windows and trying to replace matching glass. Ms. Richard will also be putting gutters on the house, extend the porch and repair the brick sidewalk. Ms. Richard stated that she is doing the same on the inside as well and wants to keep the house looking period appropriate. Ms. Richard stated that the house was built around 1840.

A discussion was had on painting exterior brick. Jim Renne stated some houses from that area did have painted brick.

David Wills made a motion to approve the Application for COA for 221 State Street to paint the exterior of the home. Steve Shoemaker seconded. No discussion. Motion was approved.

Discussion – Follow Up on Historic Homes to Monitor

A discussion was had about the residential structure evaluations made on the historic homes on the monitor list. Tavi Wydicks and Chris Wischer will meet with each homeowner and give them the evaluations made by the Town Engineer. Ms. Wydicks described the procedure that would occur if a home is found in violation and the options the Town could take against the property. Ms. Wydicks stated that the grant for commercial historic structures might be available again in 2018.

Janet Richard stated that as someone who owns a historic home and can put the time and money into fixing it up, it might not be possible for some to do that. Ms. Richard stated that there should be an incentive to fix up the historic homes and a list from the Town of qualified contractors that the homeowners can trust. Ms. Wydicks stated the Town is not allowed to recommend contractors to anyone.

Announcements:

None

Petitions and Comments from Citizens Present:

None

Adjourn:

Jeff Cox made a motion to adjourn.

Steve Shoemaker seconded and the motion carried.

Next Meeting will be October 12, 2017 at 5:30 pm.

