Town of Newburgh Historic Preservation Commission Minutes April 12, 2018

Members Present:

Jeff Cox, Randee Bugher, Steve Shoemaker, Jim Renne

Advisory Members Present:

Sue Morrison, Stewart Sebree

Administrative Present:

Attorney; Chris Wischer, Legal; Tavi Wydicks, Zoning Administrator; Stacie Krieger, Council Liaison

Members & Administrative Absent:

Troy Wells, Brent Grafe & David Wills

Citizens Present:

Adam Couts

Reading, Correction and Approval of Previous Minutes:

Steve Shoemaker made a motion to accept the minutes. Jim Renne seconded. No discussion. Motion was approved.

REPORTS:

Town Council Liaison:

Stacie Krieger stated that the Town Council and Parks Board have approved the Newburgh Parks and Recreation 2018-2022 Master Plan. Ms. Krieger explained to the Commission that in years past the Town always contracted the Master Plan out, which has cost around fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00). Ms. Krieger went on to explain that Andrea Balboni, the Administrative Assistant, took on the cast of updating the Parks Master Plan and officially turned in the plan this month. Ms. Krieger stated the State sent an email back to the Town not only approving the Master Plan but stating it was a remarkable plan and one of the best plans they had received.

Stacie Krieger explained the details of the Master Plan and how the Parks Board will use the plan as their guide for the next five (5) years.

Indiana Landmarks Southwest Field Office:

No Report.

Staff Report and Code Enforcement Update

Tavi Wydicks stated that she has issued one (1) Certificate of Occupancy since the last meeting and she does not have anything on code enforcement yet, she is still waiting on the inspection reports. Ms. Wydicks stated that the new Tin Fish building on State and Sharron has started. Ms. Wydicks stated that it is a two level building with a restaurant, fresh seafood market, and three (3) retail spaces. A new subdivision, 43 lots, is going in at Ellerbusch.

Certified Local Government:

No Report.

Unfinished Business:

None.

New Business:

COA Applicant - 116 Sycamore Street

Tavi Wydicks stated that she does not think the request for a fence at 116 Sycamore Street is outside of the guidelines but it will be seen from all angles of the home and would like the Commission to make their recommendation. Ms. Wydicks provided a picture of the existing fence and a site plan on where the new fence would go.

A discussion was had with Adam Couts, the owner of the resident on the look and height of the new fencing. Mr. Couts stated that he was coming to the Commission to see what he was allowed to do. Mr. Couts did bring a brochure showing an example of what he is wanting to do.

Ms. Wydicks stated that Mr. Couts could do the forty eight inches (48") on the side and rear of the house but the tallest the ordinance allows across the front of the house is forty inches (40"). Chris Wischer stated that he could request a variance, if he wanted the fence taller in the front or any changes to what is allowed. Mr. Wischer explained the variance process to Mr. Couts.

The pros and cons of different types of materials were discussed.

Steve Shoemaker made a motion to approve the COA on the condition it match the example given to the Commission and can be made of aluminum or wood.

Jim Renne seconded. No discussion. Motion was approved.

Discussion - Grant Program and Grant Public Information Meeting

Jim Renne stated that each Commission member has been given an example of the Newburgh Neighbor Grant Program. The program has the resident put up their own money first with the Town matching up to two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00). Historic Newburgh, Inc. will be applying for a grant from Old National Bank Foundation to pull money for this project.

Historic Newburgh, Inc. would hold the money and any money needed for a match would be pulled out of their funds. Chris Wischer stated that an agreement should be created that would set the criteria between the Town and HNI. Mr. Wischer also stated the criteria for who receives the money and for what projects should be created.

Criteria, application process and other details were discussed on the grant program. Mr. Renne stated they would like to announce this at the Historic Preservation Party on May 10, 2018. Mr. Wischer stated that it would be a good idea to announce that the Commission is working on this and that details will follow.

Tavi Wydicks stated that Beth Martin is applying for the commercial grant through OCRA for the Exchange Hotel. They have contacted the Town for additional information and Ms. Wydicks sent over the information we had.

Unfinished Business:

None

Announcements:

The Commission discussed the Little Red Brick House and the plans to get it fixed up for the party on May 10th.

Petitions and Comments from Citizens Present:

None

Adjourn:

Steve Shoemaker made a motion to adjourn.

Jeff Cox seconded and the motion carried.

Chair

Recorder