

MUSCATINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, October 17, 2018

5:15 P.M.

City Hall Council Chambers – City Hall

215 Sycamore St

Minutes

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 5:15 p.m.

Members present: Michael Maharry, Julie Wolf, Rochelle Conway, and Paul Carroll

Members excused: Mark LeRette

Staff present: Dave Gobin and Christa Bailey

2. Consent Agenda

a. September 19, 2018 Minutes

Julie Wolf motioned to approve the minutes, Rochelle Conway seconded. All ayes, motion carried.

3. Comments from Citizens

Owners of the McKee Button Co building were present to learn the advantages and disadvantages of listing the building in the National Register of Historic Places, as the McKee Building is eligible to be listed. The advantage discussed was a potential tax credit and the disadvantage would be people potentially wanting tours but there is no obligation to provide such.

4. 500 Mulberry Ave

Staff updated the Commission on the status of 500 Mulberry. The assessment report for the asbestos and lead paint is due soon. The inspector has stated there is some lead paint around the windows and doors and asbestos around the roof and basement. The next step is to secure an abatement contractor which will be approved by Council. A contract with the state is in the works to share the abatement costs.

5. 1200 Iowa Ave

City code nuisances have been abated but there is no current exterior property maintenance code in place to do anything further. A draft of an exterior property maintenance code has been presented to City Council for their input but none has been received as of yet. The commission asked to be sent a copy of the draft for their review and staff agreed to comply.

6. HRDP Fair Oaks Grant update

The project is proceeding on schedule with a public hearing scheduled for Wednesday, November 7, 2018 at the library. The next step is to complete a city

directory research for specific years which the Friends of Muscatine Historic Preservation has offered to complete.

7. CFGM Grant for McKee building

The grant is partially funded to fulfill the rest of the funds needed all the parties involved have agreed to pledge more money. The Commission came to a consensus to pledge \$750 towards the grant. Paul Carroll motioned to approve the \$750 pledge, Julie Wolf seconded. All ayes, motion carried.

Michael Maharry reminded the Commission that the Friends of Muscatine Historic Preservation is the applicant for the grant, not the City.

8. Hershey building

The developer of the Hershey building project was present at in-depth City Council meeting and discussed remodeling the building into studio apartments. They are trying to return the building back to original appearance as much as possible on the outside but the inside does not have much to salvage. The City is going to work the developers for either tax abatement of a TIF.

9. Diamond Vogel's Free Paint Program

To take part in this program all that is required is to submit an application and Diamond Vogel will supply the paint. The application deadline is February 2019 and the painting project must be completed by December 2019. The Commission discussed that the old barn at Discovery Park may be a good candidate.

10. Other business

Michael Maharry informed the Commission that he would circulate new grant opportunities to them.

Paul Carroll discussed that a number of stakeholders in the tourism market are interested in realigning the motel/hotel tax. Carroll will be taking a proposal to the City Council.

Julie Wolf motioned to adjourn the meeting, Rochelle Conway seconded. All ayes, motion carried and meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting

November 28, 2018