

Grand Forks Historic Preservation Commission
255 North Fourth Street
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Grand Forks, ND 58206-5200
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Minutes
GFHPC Meeting (Zoom and in person)
February 9, 2021

Commissioners present: Chuck Flemmer, Bill Caraher, Gordon Iseminger, Brian Carlson, Jessa Novak, Doug Munski, Nicole Derenne, Judy Swisher

Guests: Kevin Severson, RRVCA

Commissioner apologies: Sandy Slater, Cory Lien

Call to order: Chuck Flemmer called the meeting to order at 6.33 p.m.

1. **Approval of Minutes** from January 19, 2021 meeting.
 - a. Moved Munski, second Iseminger. Motion carries.
2. **Section 106 Reviews:**
 - a. RRVCA
 - i. 1320 S. 10th St - NHPA, Moved Iseminger. Second Derenne. Motion carries.
 - ii. 8002 N. 53rd Street - NHPA, Moved Swisher. Second Derenne. Motion carries
 - iii. 2202 Fallcreek Ct - NHPA, Moved Swisher. Second Munski. Motion carries
 - iv. 1402 6th Ave N. - NHPA, Moved Munski. Second Derenne. Motion carries
 - v. 630 N. 4th St - NHPA, Moved Swisher. Second Munski. Motion carries
 - vi. 801 N. 6th St - NHPA, Moved Derenne. Second Swisher. Motion carries
 - vii. 1603 1st Ave N. - NHPA, Moved Munski. Second Carlson. Motion carries
 - b. RRVCA shared that they have received an FHOB grant and that they will bring those projects pertinent to the City to the Commission.
3. **FY2021 Grant application**
 - a. Motion to approve the grant application to NDSHPO. Moved Munski, Second Swisher. Motion carries.

4. Chair Report- Chuck Flemmer

a. Annual Bridge Lighting Committee

- i. Annual Sorlie Bridge Lighting Committee met on Feb 8 to discuss the annual review of the schedule of lighting changes. The schedule has remained fairly consistent over the last few years. This year, a request for MLK Day to be changed to purple has been added to the annual schedule. Also reviewed was the request for the temporary lighting changes and the process. That process has been working fairly well with changes made to recognize the COVID-19 emergency workers and to recognize the GFPD officer killed in the line of duty. A couple of requests were declined including Grand Forks Pride Week and COVID-19 victims.

The other topic was the lighting on the Kennedy Bridge – a number of people want those lights to change to match up with the Sorlie Bridge. It has been discussed at length. No action was taken but the process was discussed if a provision is made to make changes. The Committee will need to get together again after the ND and MN SHPOs review how to do another Section 106 Review. MNDOT, MNSHPO and NDSHPO are interested in learning what GFHPC wants to do, so the Commission will need to weigh in.

5. Coordinator Report – Susan Caraher

a. Conference update

- i. The coordinator has reached out to the other CLG representatives to provide an update on the schedule and ask for their input on a number of items including reports and a working session with NDSHPO.
- ii. The website is being updated and will go live in a couple of weeks. Email lists are being collected for various sessions including Dr. Cindy Prescott's talk and Lorna's session on preparing a nomination.
- iii. 15 copies of Dr Prescott's book have been ordered and will be distributed once they are signed. They will be mailed to the other CLG offices and

NDSHPO. Please let the coordinator know if you would like an opportunity to read the book before the conference.

- iv. The coordinator is gathering photos and bios for social media posts and the website.
 - b. Public inquiries – there has recently been a higher volume of inquiries coming into the office.
 - i. Residential and Commercial property owners have been seeking historic information about their properties
 - ii. Features writer in Wentachee, WA – Alexander Griggs is the subject of an upcoming feature for an article and the Coordinator will share this when it is available.
 - iii. Surplus granitoid for private use – we continue to work on making some granitoid available by surplus once we determine how much we might need for our installation.
 - c. Drawdown submitted to NDSHPO
 - d. Met with the DDA on a variety of topics including an interest in restoring ghost signs, incentives for historic building owners, programming opportunities to get involved.
6. Other business:
- a. Ghost signs are again a topic of consideration and the coordinator will meet with Planning and Community Development and DDA next week to discuss.
 - b. Scott is opening his own jewelry store, Diamonds on DeMers in the historic Great Northern Depot.
 - c. Commissioner Iseminger asked for a status update on fundraising for the vintage GF Fire truck, ghost signs, granitoid, and our Attorney position.
 - d. Commissioner Swisher mentioned that there is to be a Zoom meeting with the City on Thursday to discuss the mill and overlay project and granitoid.
7. Move to adjourn at 7:50pm – Munski, Caraher second. Motion.