

Grand Forks Historic Preservation Commission
255 North Fourth Street
P. O. Box 5200
Grand Forks, ND 58206-5200

Minutes
September 20, 2022

Commissioners present: Chuck Flemmer, Bill Caraher, Brian Carlson, Sandy Slater, Emily Wros, Douglas Munski, Paul Conlon, Nicole Derenne, Judy Swisher, Jacey Johnston

Meeting called to order at 6:31 pm

1. Approval of minutes from August 9, 2022
 - a. Moved Wros, second Caraher. Motion carries.
2. Section 106 Reviews:
 - a. 1421 7th Ave N.: “We propose to change nothing to the outside of this home. We purpose to insulate the attic, and odds and ends such as light bulbs, smoke and c/o detectors.”
 - i. Motion: No Adverse Effect. Moved Caraher, second Slater. Motion carries.
 - b. 821 S. 19th St: “Interior only. We are proposing to insulate the attic possibly, and then small things such as light bulbs, smoke and c/o alarms. The only thing that would possibly be done to the outside is we may put a new storm door on the back entry.”
 - i. Motion: No Historic Properties Affected. Moved Caraher, second Slater.
Motion carries.
 - c. 807 Chestnut St – Near Southside Historic District: “insulating, repairing the walls in an upstairs bedroom, and odds and ends such as light bulbs, smoke and c/o alarms, etc.”
 - i. Motion: No Adverse Effect. Moved Slater , second Swisher. Motion carries.
 - d. 405 24th Ave S.: “Proposing to change out both the front, and back, existing wood doors, to steel door’s with 2 small panes of glass at the top. We are also proposing to insulate the attic if needed, and then just some odds and ends such as smoke and c/o detectors, and light bulbs.”

- i. Motion: No Historic Properties Affected. Moved Swisher, second Derenne. Motion carries.

Discussion regarding approval of Section 106 Reviews: traditionally the Commission collectively receives and reviews every Section 106 regardless of the scope of work. Having spoken with Bismarck's CLG the coordinator learned they have a different process. The chair asked members their thoughts on giving approval to the coordinator and chair to approve minor review projects such as smoke alarms, light bulbs, interior insulation, et c. Slater asked whether certain funding makes a difference and noted that the reviews began in earnest following the flood. Carlson asked about reviewing homes not in districts or of historic age. Swisher asked about private funds vs federal funds and suggested the coordinator propose a motion for vote at the October meeting.

The coordinator will inquire more about that process at the Bismarck CLG conference. Any external facing work would still be brought to the Commission for review.

3. Chair Report- Chuck Flemmer
 - a. No report this month.

4. Coordinator Report – Susan Caraher
 - a. CLG conference: Coordinators will present their reports at the online meeting on Friday, September 23rd. We will then meet in person in Bismarck on Friday, September 30th. A copy of the day's schedule is in the meeting packet.
 - b. HAER report: The National Parks Service has provided comments and Urbana is now incorporating both the NPS and our feedback.
 - c. UND Building demolition: UND has sent the State a letter of intent to demolish several buildings in the EERC complex as they plan for future flexible research space.

- d. DeRoche Block nomination: The edits provided from the State were incorporated into the final draft and it has been scheduled to appear on the agenda for the October meeting.
 - e. 125 S. 5th Street – pending Section 106 for egress windows: The Shelter Care program that used to be operated by Lutheran Social Services is now being managed by the Detention Center. To safely accommodate children in the space, two egress windows are needed at the front of the building. They are currently seeking State funds to finance the work, so this will come before the Commission as a Section 106 Review.
 - i. Carlson asked about location of the windows and whether these could be window well egress instead of removing the stone or could be located elsewhere in a non-intrusive position. He noted that the treatment and application is impressive.
 - ii. The coordinator will make some further inquiries regarding whether it is a garden-level or full basement. She will also get some further basic research on the building and inquire with others as to the long term plans for the building.
5. Other business: UND report:
- a. NAGPRA (B. Caraher)
 - i. Caraher shared the information from UND regarding the discovery and repatriation of human remains governed by NAGPRA (Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act). He noted that the university has contracted a Minnesota CRM firm to manage the compliance. Flemmer asked about cultural artefacts and Caraher noted that the goal will be to repatriate anything known to be Native American since it is possible that anything is potentially from a burial context and could be considered grave goods. This has been very upsetting for the Native American community on campus. He also noted that UND has been quite progressive in its approach to repatriation, and has involve the THPOs early in the process.
 - b. Merrifield Open House (B. Caraher): The College of Arts and Sciences is hosting an open house on Friday, September 30 from 3.30pm to 5:30pm for everyone interested

in touring the building ahead of its remodel. Departments are planning a Merrifield-themed showcase including poetry readings, history and music.

- c. Joint artwork showcase in City Hall (Swisher)
 - i. The joint quilting and water colors exhibit is coming to City Hall. They feature Grand Forks historic landmarks including the Wheeler (Swisher) house.
 - d. The coordinator proposed the idea of ceasing to use Zoom for meetings given the juggling of technology and that most people are returning to face-to-face meetings. Commissioners are asked to give some thought to this prior to the October meeting.
6. Motion to adjourn – Moved Derenne, second Swisher. Meeting ended at 7:15 pm.

Next meeting: October 11, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.