

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

Minutes
April 11, 2023

Commissioners present: Chuck Flemmer, Bill Caraher, Doug Munski, Judy Swisher, Gordon Iseminger, Sandy Slater, Jacey Johnston, Paul Conlon, Brian Carlson, Nicole Derenne.

Guest: Connor Grenier

Meeting called to order at 6:33 pm

1. Approval of minutes from March 14, 2023
 - a. Moved Iseminger, second Swisher. Motion carries.
2. Section 106 Reviews:
 - a. RRVCA: 925 N. 4th St. (Near Northside Neighborhood) Foundation panels and small interior items.
 - i. Motion NHPA: Moved Munski, second Derenne. Motion carries.
 - b. RRVCA: 2714 S. 10th St: Foundation panels
 - i. Motion: NHPA: Moved Derenne, second Slater. Motion carries.
 - c. Administratively approved: 522 N 8th St (replace steel entry door with steel door with 2 small panes of glass, interior items including attic insulation light bulbs, dryer vent, smoke alarms).
 - d. Administratively approved: 1209 S. 9th St (insulate the attic and walls, and other minor items inside the home).
 - e. Administratively approved: 1242 17th St NE (replace wood entry door to a steel door, and minor interior items).
3. Chair report:
 - a. DDRB met on April 6th.
 - i. Discussed a variance for signage on the new Olive Ann hotel that will allow for it to be increased over the standard size in the ordinance. The board approved the oversize signage since it is such a large building and had space

for it, and the space will be backlit to remain subtle. It proportionally made sense to grant the variance.

- ii. Reviewed some staff suggestions with regard to the design standards concerning signage (no changes, and exceptions will continue to come to DDRB), setbacks for rooftops (will remain the same and exceptions will continue to come to DDRB). Changes made moving forward will adjust rooftop additions to allow an additional 5 feet for elevators to accommodate the mechanicals on the top, but stairwell additions will remain at 10 ft.

- 1. Swisher asked about what is happening to St John's Block. Flemmer noted that the project is just the windows and the annex.

- b. Sorlie Bridge Lighting: the committee had previously approved May 14th to the 20th for the annual Police Week. A day (May 27th) will be added to the Memorial Day weekend for the anniversary of Officer Cody Holte. The lights will be blue for that night. Memorial Day week is red, white and blue.

4. Coordinator Report:

- a. Donated labor forms for Q2: the coordinator asked Commission members to review their donated labor forms in preparation for the Q2 drawdown.
- b. GFH: the coordinator provided an interview regarding lost buildings both downtown and on the UND campus. She will circulate the article when it appears.
- c. Special Collections scanning: Curt Hanson has offered to scan all of the remaining pre-flood topo maps that the Engineering Department gifted to us. There are a total of 173 large maps, and these will be done incrementally through the summer by an intern. The Alumni and Foundation would like to do a video of them using their large scanner, and so this project will help with that story. We just need to determine how best to move them to Special Collections. They are planning to scan as high resolution and GeoTiffs. Dr Munski suggested reaching out to Darin Buri at the College of Engineering and Mines Geology library to offer the maps for their collection.
- d. 150th meeting: the coordinator has reached out to a list of agencies and organizations to come together to exchange some ideas. That meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 20.

- i. Dr Iseminger asked whether we believe people in the City will be interested in the 150th. He also noted the two books put together from the GFH as being valuable since so many records were lost. GFHPC has recently added those two books as well as two others to the Commission library.
 - ii. Dr Iseminger also asked about whether the lost buildings in the urban renewal zone may have been documented at the time. Many buildings, stock yards, mills, breweries were all removed. He noted that Ken Dawes and others may have photos in their personal collections. The Commission is waiting to learn what will be funded in the next grant, as it includes a request to do a survey.
5. Internship project update: Connor Grenier
 - a. Collections of photos for old buildings in GF, looking at a pamphlet of early GF from 1897.
 - b. He also has recently prepared materials for the Old Synagogue building demolished in 1938.
6. Other business: Vacancy on the Commission with Emily's departure. We will list in soon with the Mayor's office
7. Move to adjourn at 7: 17p.m. Moved Munski, second. Swisher.

Next meeting is Tuesday, May 9 at 6:30pm