

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

Minutes
July 11, 2023

Commissioners present: Chuck Flemmer, Gordon Iseminger, Sandy Slater, Bill Caraher, Brian Carlson, Jacey Johnston.

Meeting called to order at 6:33 pm

1. Approval of minutes from June 13 2023
 - a. Moved Iseminger, second Slater. Motion carries.
 - i. Iseminger asked about Wesley College bust and plaque and what happened to them. Caraher noted that the University salvaged these types of items and keeps them in storage.
 - ii. Iseminger asked about the time span and whether the City scanned any of the building permit ledgers. The coordinator noted that some of them were so badly damaged it was not possible to discern the dates, but the approximate time frame was 1910 to the 1940s. The City did not scan them and would have discarded them, but the Myra Museum is reviewing them and may select some to digitize or display.
 - iii. Iseminger noted that a public call for information through the GF Herald may help to identify the pipe organ and the seats at the Empire Theatre. Carlson noted that the theatre seats he has access to originally came from The Met and therefore may be able to identify based on that. The Chair will share photos with Carlson.
2. Section 106 Reviews: 1110 Cottonwood St (not in a historic district)
 - a. Motion: NHPA, moved Iseminger, second Slater
 - b. 720 S. 19th St (not in a historic district)
 - i. Motion NHPA, moved Slater, second Johnston
 - c. 1803 8th Ave N (not in a historic district)
 - i. Motion: NHPA, moved Slater, second Johnston

3. Chair report:
 - a. DDRB met on Thursday June 15 to discuss putting in an exterior door into the historic Edgewood building which will be on the alley side that will provide access between the coffee shop and patio. The façade is not actually historic since it was updated after an adjacent building was removed.
4. Coordinator Report: Susan Caraher
 - a. 150th Anniversary: a reminder that the City has decided it will pursue 2031 as the 150th anniversary tying it to the date of incorporation rather than 2024 which is the 150th of land sales and the formation of the county. The Commission will continue with projects as planned.
 - b. Commissioner reappointments: Four Commission members have agreed to reappointments until 2025. The Staff Report has been sent to the Mayor for his submission to the Council.
 - c. EGF Library looking for a public presentation: the library has reached out to the Commission to ask whether we would be available to offer a public talk as part of their events calendar offerings. We will work on something for the Fall after the presentation to the State Review Board. We may offer a general “Who We Are and What We Do” talk. Caraher also suggested a talk on midcentury might interest east side residents since many of the homes in EGF are of similar construction age.
 - d. Q3 drawdown and donated labor forms: the drawdown will go to the State in the next week.
 - e. August meeting: the coordinator has requested the use of A102 for the August meeting since we will have two presentations and potentially some additional visitors in attendance. We may also have to offer a virtual option.
 - i. Johnston asked about the meeting time and whether it has always been at 6:30pm. Discussion included that time could be negotiated. It had been earlier in the past, but some found it harder to get to the meetings on time due to work commitments. Perhaps a consideration for 6pm? For discussion with the Commission at an upcoming meeting.
 - f. UND Historic District update on campus buildings: President Armacost has asked for identification of other buildings that may be considered for documenting or National Register. Because the current historic district has changed considerably and

another building outside the district is being submitted to the National Register for listing, it may be that the campus needs to be resurveyed and an adjustment made.

- i. Caraher noted a UND Today story on the foundation of Old Main uncovered during work associated with Merrifield Hall.
 - g. Website update underway. The web developer is looking at several design themes and the coordinator has been sourcing updated photos and starting on updated content.
- 5. Other business:
 - a. Delta Zeta House documentation is in this month's Dropbox folder for anyone who would like to read it.
 - b. Confusion Corner roundabout: City will be holding a public input meeting on Thursday 20th.
 - c. 1880 Birds Eye View being printed for our office and will be used on our new website.
- 6. Move to adjourn at 7:16p.m. Moved Slater, second Johnston.

Next meeting is Tuesday, August 8 at 6:30pm