

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

Minutes
January 14, 2025

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

Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm.

1. Approval of minutes from December 10th, 2024. Moved Munski, second Derenne. Motion carries.
2. Section 106 Reviews: There were no Section 106 Reviews this month.
3. FY25 CLG Grant Application
 - a. The Coordinator shared a draft of the application and discussed in detail the following projects included as part of the proposed projects.
 - b. Preservation Plan – Year 2 – the Coordinator is requesting another year of time for research, writing and preparation of a plan. CLG grants are now drawn down over three years.
 - c. Video project: the Coordinator was approached by Ad Monkeys with an idea regarding the Lustron House and creating a video to tell the story of the house and how it came to be part of the Myra Museum. This would be a collaborative project with the County Historical Society. The idea is still in the early stages, and next steps would be to meet with Leah and Ad Monkeys to discuss the idea in greater detail. We also discussed a video for Lost Neighborhoods – Jewish Neighborhood and Lincoln Park. These could be in a similar style to the video that SHSND recently did on the GF Airport Administration Building.
 - d. Location signage: the Coordinator proposes installing two interpretive panels at key locations in the Lost Jewish Neighborhood. Depending on the availability of funds, there may also be opportunity to fund or contribute to interpretive signage in Pillsbury Park for its recent refurbishment and the new 2025 ghost sign.
 - e. Postcards: the Coordinator proposes including some funds to replenish historic district postcards stock.

- i. Motion to accept a budget that includes a video. Moved Slater, second Conlon.
Motion carries.

4. Chair Report: Chuck Flemmer

5. Coordinator Report: Susan Caraher

a. Water Treatment Plant Re development meeting

- i. The WTP Redevelopment Steering and Staff Committees met on December 17th.
- ii. The consultants gave a recap of the results from prior meetings including riverfront views, access to the Greenway, downtown extension, a place to call home, and a hub for social services.
- iii. In their market analysis they considered multi family, for sale residential, storefront retail and ground floor office space.
- iv. They provided a very thorough presentation walking through a number of potential site developments. The options ranged from 100% townhomes, 100% apartments, apartments with a public amenity, a mix of townhomes, apartments and a public amenity, apartments and retail with ground level parking, and a mix of townhomes, apartments, retail, public amenity and underground parking.
 - 1. Iseminger – something for the public and a more attractive entrance to the city.
 - 2. Swisher – asked about the houses on the lot adjacent.

b. Talking Trails:

- i. The coordinator met with the DDA to discuss the project and we brainstormed approximately 30 possible locations. This is a project is a collaboration between the Visit GGF and DDA, and we discussed how the Commission could provide some assistance in the preparation of content for several of the sites where appropriate. We also discussed other potential stakeholders. More meetings to follow.

c. Historic Hospitals posts

- i. The coordinator prepared and posted social media posts for St Luke's/Deaconess, the City Detention Hospital, the Hariman Chiropractic Hospital, the old St Michael's and the new St Michael's/United Hospital. There was particularly good engagement with the Hariman Sanatorium with lots of comments.

d. SHPO approval of sign installation project – the State determined no adverse effect.

- e. SHPO approval of UND hanger demolition at the airport – the State determined they were not historically significant buildings and they have no concerns with their removal.
- f. Roadside marker – Eric Landmark Co.
 - i. The Coordinator has attempted repeatedly to contact the company to get the project moving and has had no response to emails and phone calls. Their account on Etsy has now been turned off and all indicators point to either the company temporarily or permanently closed. For this reason, the Coordinator has emailed Grand Forks Welding and Machine to ask whether they believe the plaque could be straightened out.
 - ii. As a reminder, we applied for and received a supplemental grant from the State for \$5,647 plus match.
 - 1. Iseminger recommended Albrechts and Ornamental Iron.
 - 2. Derenne noted that UND's Art Dept also does metal work.
- g. End of Year budget reconciliation
- h. Grand Forks Public Library fundraiser – podcast booth project
 - i. Derenne sits on the GFPL Foundation and they are participating in the Giving Hearts Day to buy a podcast booth for the library and give access to all who wish to use it. The board considered using some of the 150th stories.
- 6. Other Business: Albrecht is inventive with his fabricating.
 - a. Giving Hearts Day – the GF Historical Society also typically participates.
- 7. Move to adjourn – Conlon, second Derenne 7:03pm. Motion carries.

Upcoming meetings: **Tuesday, February 11th 2025 at 6:00pm**