

MINUTES
BELOIT LANDMARKS COMMISSION
Meeting of June 18, 2013

A Meeting of the Beloit Landmarks Commission was held on Tuesday, June 18, 2013 in the City Hall Forum.

Present: Rick McGrath, Steve Vollmer, Sandra Williams, Ruth Vater

Absent: Ellen Joyce, Lynette Johnson, Donna Johnson, Charles Haynes

1. Roll Call

Commissioner McGrath called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Director of Planning & Building Services Drew Pennington called the Roll.

2. Minutes of the May 21, 2013 and May 28, 2013 Meetings

Following a revision of one of the vote tallies, the Minutes of the May 21, 2013 and May 28, 2013 meetings were approved on a motion by Commissioner Vater, seconded by Commissioner Vollmer. The motion carried (4-0).

3. Public Comments: None

4. Blake Rohrer – Certificate of Appropriateness

COA-2013-17 Review and consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness to construct a wheelchair ramp and to replace a private sidewalk for the property located at 717 Bluff Street.

Mr. Pennington read the staff report.

Jennifer Davel of the Wisconsin Historical Society approached the lectern and identified herself as the architect for the project. Ms. Davel gave an overview of the project and the benefits of both design alternatives. Commissioner McGrath asked Mr. Pennington why staff preferred design “A,” and Mr. Pennington stated that this design would conceal the ramp when the church is viewed from Bluff Street.

Following this discussion, Commissioner Vollmer made a motion to approve the requested COA, subject to the conditions recommended by staff. Commissioner Vollmer’s motion was not seconded. Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the requested COA, subject to the conditions recommended by staff, including an amendment to condition #1 to allow the applicant to construct design “B.” Commissioner Vater seconded the motion. The motion carried (3-1), with Commissioner Vollmer opposed.

5. Shannon Fie – Certificate of Appropriateness

COA-2013-18 Review and consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness to install a garage service door, to install trim around an existing overhead door, and to repair garage siding for the property located at 735 Harrison Avenue.

Mr. Pennington read the staff report.

Shannon Fie approached the lectern and identified herself as the applicant. Ms. Fie summarized the project and other future plans for her property.

Following this discussion, Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the requested COA, subject to the conditions recommended by staff. Commissioner Vollmer seconded the motion. The motion carried (4-0).

6. David Christopher Luebke – Certificate of Appropriateness

COA-2013-19 Review and consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness to replace existing windows, to repair & paint wood shake siding, and to replace existing gutters for the property located at 745 Milwaukee Road.

Mr. Pennington read the staff report.

David Luebke and Sam Johnson approached the lectern and identified themselves as the applicants. Mr. Luebke summarized the project, as well as future plans for their property. Commissioner McGrath urged the applicants to consider window repair in lieu of replacement. Mr. Luebke stated that they are in the process of obtaining bids for window repair. Commissioner Vater and the applicants discussed several possible energy efficiency projects.

Following this discussion, Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the requested COA, subject to the conditions recommended by staff. Commissioner Vollmer seconded the motion. The motion failed (2-2). Commissioners McGrath and Vater stated that they needed more information on the condition of the windows and other efficiency projects. Mr. Luebke stated that the windows are not mentioned as an architectural feature in the Intensive Survey Form. Commissioner McGrath discussed the merits of window repair versus replacement. Following this discussion, Commissioner Vollmer made a motion to approve the requested COA, subject to the conditions recommended by staff. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. The motion carried (3-1), with Commissioner McGrath opposed.

7. Report on Staff-Approved Certificates of Appropriateness & Activities Since Last Meeting

Mr. Pennington announced that he recently issued the following Certificates of Appropriateness:
632 Church Street – To replace the roof.
341 Vernon Avenue – To replace the porch floor.
816 Wisconsin Avenue – To replace/repair the gutters.

8. Committee Reports

- A. Education & Outreach Committee: Nothing to report.
- B. Grant Writing Committee: Nothing to report.
- C. Site Visit Committee: Nothing to report.
- D. Historic District Sign Committee: Commissioner McGrath announced that the City of Janesville is moving forward with a historic district sign project.

9. Adjournment

At 7:50 PM, Commissioner Vollmer made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Commissioner Vater seconded the motion. The motion carried (4-0).

Drew Pennington, Director of Planning & Building Services