

MINUTES
BELOIT LANDMARKS COMMISSION
Meeting of September 23, 2014

A Meeting of the Beloit Landmarks Commission was held on Tuesday, September 23, 2014 in the Forum, City Hall.

Present: Alex Blazer, Donna Johnson, Ruth Vater, Rick McGrath, Steve Vollmer, Charles Haynes, Ellen Joyce

Absent: Terri Kaye

1. Roll Call

Commissioner Blazer called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Planner Stephanie Hummel called the Roll.

2. Minutes of the August 19, 2014 Meeting

The Minutes of the August 19, 2014 meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner McGrath, seconded by Commissioner Vollmer. The motion carried (5-0; Joyce Absent).

3. Public Comments: None

4. St. Paul's Episcopal Church – Certificate of Appropriateness

COA- 2014-35 Review and consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness for new windows and door windows at 212 West Grand Avenue

Ms. Hummel read the staff report.

Anita Williams spoke on behalf of St. Paul's Episcopal Church and gave a project overview. Commissioner McGrath stated that he believes replacement of these windows is acceptable given the existing window type. Commissioner Vollmer questioned the window contractor on the future of the sills. The contractor stated that the exterior would be wrapped in aluminum and the interior sills would be restored and remain.

Following this discussion, Commissioner McGrath made a motion to approve the requested COA as written, subject to the conditions recommended by staff. Commissioner Vollmer seconded the motion. The motion carried (6-0).

5. Scott Schneider– Certificate of Appropriateness

COA-2014-36 Review and consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness for porch addition, garage addition, and exterior updates at 422 Bluff Street/310 Euclid Avenue

Ms. Hummel read the staff report.

Scott Schneider and Julie Christensen introduced themselves as the applicants on behalf of the City of Beloit. Mr. Schneider discussed the proposed vinyl siding, stating that the wood is mostly intact, but there are patched areas that don't match, as well as substantial holes and blemishes. He also discussed that HUD would require the lead paint on the wood siding to be encapsulated instead of removed. This has a 20-year life, but is a thick product. Ms. Christensen noted that bids for the project will be released after this COA approval and that some things may be cost-dependent. They may return to amend this COA once the bids are received and better cost estimate can be gathered.

Commissioner Vater questioned the removal of the chimney. Mr. Schneider stated that moving masonry while moving a house can cause damage to both the masonry and the structure itself. Roof deterioration is also an issue with this chimney. Once the new heating and cooling systems are installed, the chimney would be purely aesthetic. As it is not a major decorative feature, he felt removal was best.

Commissioner McGrath is against the "play pen" design of the front porch caused by the handrail height. He noted that if the foundation was lowered, the handrail height can be lowered. Mr. Schneider noted that the height is based on the building code, but he would look into alternatives.

Following this discussion, Commissioner Joyce made a motion to approve the requested COA, subject to the conditions recommended by staff. Commissioner Vater seconded the motion. The motion carried (6-0).

6. Scott Sevek – Certificate of Appropriateness

COA-2014-37 Review and consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness to expose hidden window and associated trim work at 736 Bluff Street

Ms. Hummel read the staff report.

No representative was available for this COA. Commissioner Haynes confirmed with Ms. Hummel that this window was in the attic of the home.

Following this discussion, Commissioner Vater made a motion to approve the requested COA, subject to the conditions recommended by staff. Commissioner Vollmer seconded the motion. The motion carried (6-0).

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

Ms. Hummel announced that she recently issued the following Certificates of Appropriateness:

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| 750 Bluff Street: | Gutter Repairs |
| 640 Bluff Street: | Trim Repairs |
| 801 Bluff Street: | Roof Replacement |
| 731 Harrison Avenue: | Fence |

8. Committee Reports

- A. Education & Outreach Committee: Commissioner Johnson spoke with a resident from Bluff Street who questioned why the historic-themed lamp posts are not on the roadway from Shirland to West Grand. Commissioner Haynes stated that installation of lamp posts is done during full reconstruction of roadways. Since this section of the road has not been reconstructed, the lights were not installed.
- B. Grant Writing Committee: Commissioner Joyce informed the Commission that a Notice of Intent to Apply for the CLG Grant for a new intensive survey was submitted to the State Historic Preservation Officer. This committee will meet concerning the application due in November. Commissioners Vater and Joyce, along with Ms. Hummel, also attended a webinar with the SHPO concerning the application process.
- C. Site Visit Committee: Commissioner Vollmer stated that he, Commissioner Blazer, and Ms. Hummel visited all of the sites for the current COAs.

9. Adjournment

At 8:05 PM, Commissioner Joyce made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Commissioner Vollmer seconded the motion. The motion carried (6-0).

Stephanie Hummel, Planner