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**MEETING MINUTES
BELOIT LANDMARKS COMMISSION
Tuesday, April 18, 2017, 7:15 PM
The Forum, 100 State Street**

1. Roll Call

Commissioner Blazer called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.
Commissioners Jacobsen, Joyce, Blazer, Vater, McGrath, and Truesdale were present.

2. Minutes of the March 21, Meeting

Commissioners Joyce and Vater made a motion to approve the draft Minutes. Motion carried, 6-0.

3. Public Comments: Bill Dorr spoke on behalf of the Near East Side/College Park neighborhood in regard to changing the Near East Side Historic District signs to the College-Park Historic District.

Mr. Dorr updated the commission on fundraising for the sign replacements.

Mr. Dorr mentioned that the sign company, Tapco, had been contacted for an estimate on the proposed replacement signs.

4. Diep Phan & Amrish Chourasia, Property Owner – Certificate of Appropriateness

COA-2017-02 Review and consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness to allow the replacement of existing siding on the residential structure at 847 Park Avenue.

Rudy Moreno, Planner II, read the staff report and recommendation.

Amrish Chourasia briefed the commission on the site visit conducted by Commissioner Truesdale and Mr. Moreno.

Mr. Chourasia presented a sample of the proposed replacement material, and he explained that the composite board siding is a wood product and will look similar to the existing wood siding.

Mr. Chourasia clarified to the commission that, at this point, he would like to replace the only damaged portions of the existing wood siding with composite board siding. Mr. Chourasia added that he'd eventually like to replace the entire siding with the composite board material at some point in 2018.

Commissioner McGrath asked Mr. Chourasia if his proposal to eventually replace the entire existing siding was for economic reasons. Mr. Chourasia explained his main reasons for choosing the

composite board siding were because it would resemble the original siding, and its long term maintenance cost would be less than the cost of maintaining wood siding. Mr. Chourasia added that the wood siding would have to be scraped and repainted approximately every eight years, and the pre-painted composite board siding would be a more lasting alternative given its estimated 20 year durability.

Commissioner Blazer commented on the pictures provided from the site visit and expressed concern that he could not accurately assess extent of the damage to the siding. Commissioner Blazer asked Mr. Chourasia if the extent of the siding damage was in a state where replace of the entire siding was necessary. Mr. Chourasia explained that portions of the siding are in need of replacement, most of which are on the south facing wall of the house.

Commissioner Joyce asked Mr. Chourasia if he planned on painting the remaining portions of the siding that would not be replaced. Mr. Chourasia said he did plan on scraping and painting the remaining siding himself.

Commissioner Joyce asked Commissioner Truesdale for his opinion in regard to the damaged wood siding. Commissioner Truesdale agreed that some of siding will have to be repaired and the remaining portion will need to be repainted.

Commissioner McGrath asked Mr. Chourasia how much of the siding would have to be replaced. Mr. Chourasia estimated that 30 percent of the siding would have to be replaced due to moisture damage. Commissioner Truesdale agreed with Mr. Chourasia's estimate on the percentage of damaged siding.

Commissioner Vater asked Mr. Chourasia if the planned on preserving the soffits and fascia. Mr. Chourasia explained that there is not a fascia on the house, and he did plan on taking steps to preserving the trim while removing the siding. Commissioner Vater also asked Mr. Chourasia to if the size of the composite boards would match the existing siding. Mr. Chourasia explained that the new materials will closely match the existing material.

Commissioner McGrath went over the national historic preservation guidelines for repairing and preplacing siding.

Commissioner Joyce added that the Landmarks Commission has made accommodations when expense was a prohibited factor.

Commissioners Joyce and Truesdale motioned to approve the COA. Motion carried, 4-2.

5. Joe Sagona, Property Owner – Certificate of Appropriateness

COA-2017-04 Review and consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness to allow the replacement an existing exterior door at 710 Park Avenue.

Mr. Moreno read the staff report and recommendation.

Joe Sagona with Corporate Contractors, Inc. described the proposed garage door improvement at 710 Park Avenue.

Mr. Moreno asked Mr. Sagona to go over some of the garage improvements that where mentioned during the site visit, but were not included on the submitted COA application. Mr. Sagona then

explained to the commission that he would also like to replace the existing trim and fascia with materials that match the exterior of the house.

Commissioners Joyce and Vater motioned that to amend Mr. Sagona's COA request to include improvements to the garage trim and fascia. Motion carried, 6-0

Commissioners Joyce and Vater motioned to approve the submitted COA, as amended. Motion carried, 6-0.

6. Report on Staff Activities Since Last Meeting

A. Report on Staff-Approved Certificates of Appropriateness

Rudy Moreno reported a COA for the property located at 710 Church Street was approved for the following improvements: 1) a garage and shed roof tear-off and re-shingling with materials that will match the residential structure, 2) the replacement of existing screens and storm windows on the two existing screened porches, 3) repairs to the plaster on the front and rear exterior walls of the house, 4) repair and repaint the exterior trim on the house and garage.

7. Discussion of Committee Structures and Assignments (including Ad Hoc Sign Committee)

A. Mr. Moreno informed the commission that Commissioner Carol announced her resignation from the Landmarks Committee on April 12, 2017.

Mr. Moreno requested clarification on the official purpose, and structure of the Ad Hoc Sign Committee. Commissioner Blazer speculated on the Ad Hoc Sign Committee's structure and its assignments. Commissioner Truesdale clarified the Ad Hoc Sign Committee responsible for the Near East Side/ College-Park sign and name change.

The Landmarks Commission discussed the committee structure and assignments:

Commissioners Joyce and Ruth were assigned to the Grant Writing Committee.
Commissioner McGrath was assigned to the Education and Outreach Committee.
Commissioners Blazer, Jacobsen, and Truesdale were assigned to the Site Visits Committee.
Commissioner Truesdale was assigned to the Ad Hoc Sign Committee.

B. Commissioner Truesdale informed the commission that he had been communicating with the sign company, Tapco, and that Mr. Door had been communicating with the residents of the Near East Side/College-Park neighborhood in regard to raising funds for the sign replacements.

Mr. Door presented a design for the new College-Park signs and explained to the commission that the proposed design was just a rendering provided for feedback.

Commissioner Joyce mentioned an agreement, made during past Landmark Commission meetings, that both the east and west historic districts signs would all display the water tower logo.

Commissioner Joyce suggested that the discussion on the new sign design would be more appropriate after the name change has been approved by the National Register of Historic Places.

8. Discussion of Changing Regular Meeting Location

Commissioner Joyce asked for clarification on the reasoning for moving the regular meeting location for the landmarks commission.

Commissioner McGrath speculated that the public library offers a more accessible location for residents and an environment that would help establish a more collaborated effort with the public.

Commissioner Joyce had some concerns about the availability and demand over the available meeting space at the library. Commissioner Joyce added that she feels a city commission should meet at city hall.

9. Adjournment

Commissioners Joyce and McGrath moved to adjourn at 8:30 PM. Motion carried, 6-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rudy Moreno, Planner II
May 1, 2017