

IDAHO FALLS HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

November 7, 2013

12:00 p.m.

City Annex Building Conference Room
680 Park Avenue

Minutes

Attending: Judy Mortimer, Renee Magee, Hereschell Mynarcik, Christina Olson, Kim Smith, Graham Whipple, and Julie Williams. Brad Cramer, Brent McLane, and Debra Petty, staff.

Call to Order at 12:04 p.m.

Approval of Minutes, October 3, 2013: Mynarcik moved to approve the minutes of October 3, 2013, as presented. Olson seconded and passed unanimously.

Introduction to New Staff Members: Brad Cramer said he is moving into the position as Director of Planning and Building. A position previously held by Renee Magee. He does not possess the knowledge of historic preservation that Magee does, but is supportive of the commission's work and willing to learn all that he can. Cramer introduced Brent McLane, Current Planner, who will assist Cramer with the work of the commission. McLane said he took courses in historic preservation during his Master's program but most of his experience comes from the restoration of historic homes on The Avenues in Salt Lake City.

Draft Letter for Ruth House: Magee will prepare a draft letter to the Historic Trust for review and comment by the commission. The purpose of the letter is to support the request by Ruth House for additional grant money to complete the restoration of the historic Evergreen sign reader board. Mynarcik found a photo showing the reader board in its original form. The facility received one grant for the sign. Hopefully the recent photo and support of the commission will make it possible for another grant to complete the project.

Nomination of Member to Commission: Braun moved to recommend Renee Magee be appointed to the commission to complete the vacancy left by Loretta Evans. Mortimer seconded the motion and passed unanimously. City Council will consider the recommendation at their next regular meeting.

Invitation to Elected Officials to Attend Commission Meeting/Training: The commission will invite the Mayor and City Council to attend the May 1, 2014, meeting which will include a tour of downtown buildings. This is an opportunity to educate new leadership and make them aware of the many successes by the commission. Whipple suggested the invitations include the paragraph from the ordinance stating the purpose of the commission. CLG funds may cover the cost of renting a van for a large group, but the meal must be self-funded.

Miscellaneous: Mynarcik asked the status of funds for replacement brochures lost in the flood. Cramer said photos were provided but the supporting documentation was never submitted. Staff will follow up.

Mynarcik attended the National Trust Conference in Indianapolis. He gave a brief overview of the conference events. A significant session dealt with changes to The Secretary of the Interior's standards for preservation. Many changes will happen in the next two years. Whipple said many buildings in Spokane would have been lost were it were not for their adaptive reuse. Bringing them into the 21st Century preserved their heritage. Williams said archeologist and architectural historians have already experienced many of the changes.

Magee updated the future of some of the properties in downtown. The Savings Center and the old Melaleuca building will be demolished in the spring and the land sold. There is no word regarding the Hitt House. Smith made contact with hospital staff concerning the use of the Hitt House. He doesn't want to move forward without some direction as how to proceed. Magee suggested contacting Cher Stone. Williams will contact Stone for the best method to approach church leadership for presentation of a use that may prevent demolition of the Hitt House. Magee said the local downtown rotary will celebrate their centennial in 2017. They are looking for a project(s) to complete before the event tying into the feedback from citizen's participation for updating the comprehensive plan. Magee suggested the bike projects and the Hit House and received positive feedback.

Mynarcik's home will be open to the public beginning the week of December 12th. He is willing to schedule for special groups. Magee suggested the magnet school. Whipple asked if the magnet school finished their project for the lettered streets. Williams has a copy of the report and will make it available.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

Debra Petty, Recording Secretary