

City of Sidney
Historic Preservation Board Meeting
August 13, 2013

Call to Order: Meeting called to order by the Vice Chairperson of the board at 12:10pm

Roll Call: Greg Huck, John Phillips, Rich Phillips, Kay Hicks, Meagan Smuin

Board Members Absent: Doug Meier and Casey Cortney. Additional Attendees: Audrey Mohr, Floyd Brandt, Megan McGown, Gary Person, and Brad Rowan

Approval of the minutes from July 9, 2013: Motion made by Huck to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Smuin. The motion passed with all voting in favor.

Comments by Audrey Mohr: explanation of the CLG community review. Mohr explained that SHPO will be conducting an evaluation every 4 years for each CLG Community in the state. Mohr will send a letter to include areas that are going well and areas needing improvement.

Historic Preservation Plan Comments: Smuin suggested adopting a title for the plan. Suggestions included: City of Sidney, NE Historic Preservation Plan or Sidney, NE Historic Preservation Plan. Additionally she suggested being consistent in referencing the HPB in the body of the plan as City of Sidney Historic Preservation Board. She requested the City to send a draft of the plan to the CCHA and the Boot Hill committee and County Commissioners along with a letter asking for comments. McGown will also publish the Plan to the City website for public comments. J. Phillips suggested 30 comment period requesting comments at the September meeting. McGown will get a letter and the plan in the mail this week.

Smuin also asked for clarification on LB 840 funds (the funds used for the facade incentive program) and renewal period. McGown explained that the Economic Development Plan has to be taken to the vote of the people every 10 years. The current plan will expire in 2017. The current plan designates \$50,000 per year specifically for downtown improvements. McGown stated that it includes such improvements as public infrastructure, downtown special projects, as well as our incentive programs. The money isn't budgeted each year to allow for a specific number of facade projects, it just depends on the number of applicants. Smuin also asked if we could put the facade projects that have been completed on the website to generate more positive education about the program. McGown will work on this. Smuin also proposed giving **awards annually to those that contribute to historic preservation.**

Smuin asked about the Scott Day Project from 2007 and the design renderings that he completed. She wondered how they are made available. McGown stated that she hand delivered them at the time the renderings were completed to each property. She also gives them **out to new building owners/tenants if a design was completed on the property.**

Review of Plans, Projects, specifications, and signs:

Hicks: Applying for an amendment to the previously approved COA for improvements on the 827 10th avenue property. They would like to cover the faux red brick beneath the windows on the front of the building with stone similar to Huck's building on the opposite side of the street. R. Phillips made a motion to approve the amended COA to include approval of adding the stone to **the building. Huck seconded the motion with all in favor and Hicks abstaining.**

Hicks notified the board of repairs that they are doing to the side of the building at 827 10th avenue due to damage caused by a garbage truck. Hicks brought up a concern with the placement of the dumpster relative to the building. Person said it was definitely something to **keep in mind with future projects.**

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Candice Swanson applied for COA for signage at 1014 Illinois Street. The sign will be painted wood with flat vinyl letters applied. The work will be completed by Swanson. Smuin made a motion to approve the sign provided the letters are flat and not raised. Huck seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. McGown will notify Swanson as well as letting her know about the reimbursement rates and itemization of the receipts. *Note: Swanson is not applying for funding, just the COA.

Acknowledgment of the bid for the Preservation Handbook: McGown announced that there was only one bid submitted for the Preservation Handbook project. It was submitted by Shelley McCafferty. Smuin asked to have more input early on in the process to ensure that community specific needs are being met, specifically, the ordinance. She recommended a work session with Shelley to address detailed needs in Sidney including windows and issues that we have dealt with over the years. J. Phillips made a motion to approve the acceptance of the bid. Huck seconded the motion all voted in favor and the motion passed.

NAPC CAMP training Update - The board asked McGown to schedule the training for October 8, 2013. McGown will follow up with NAPC to get the date set. It was suggested to forego the regular business meeting in October. If there is something that needs addressed, the board can meet during the same day as the CAMP.

Smuin shared information and ideas about walking tour booklets, summer picture scavenger events, and other ideas to spread public awareness.

Comments by the City Manager: Person announced that there are 2 board members whose terms are up in October. A letter will be sent to both to determine whether or not they will serve again. Appointments are made by the City Manager and ratified by Council. Appointments will be made in September.

Person also announced the unveiling of the East Sidney expansion plan which will be announced on Monday, August 19. The City is in the middle of the budgeting process and is economically healthy this year. There are a lot of projects going forward right now. 10th ave and Fort Sidney overlay will get started in the spring. Toledo and Greenwood road expansion projects will be underway in the spring as well with bids to be collected in November/December.

Comments by board: Hicks commented on the bulb outs and said that there were positive comments from a visitor regarding our bulb outs.

With all business being addressed, the meeting adjourned at 1:00pm