

City of Sidney
Historic Preservation Board Meeting
January 14, 2014

The City of Sidney Historic Preservation Board Meeting was called to order at 12:05pm by Interim Director of the Board, Megan McGown. The Open Public Meetings Act was pointed out and she also acknowledged that the meeting was properly advertised in the Sun-Telegraph on January 8.

Board Members responding to roll call included: John Phillips, Rich Phillips, Greg Huck, and Dave Faries. Additional attendees included: Megan McGown, Brad Rowan, Gary Person, Glenna Aurich and Jerry Steffens. Board members absent included: Kay Hicks and Brandy Sullivan.

Election of officers: R. Phillips nominated Hicks for the Chairperson of the board, J. Phillips seconded the motion. With no additional nominations, nominations ceased and a vote was called. All members present voted Yea and the motion carried. With Hicks moving to the Chairperson role, the Vice Chair position was vacant. McGown called for nominations for Vice Chair. Huck nominated R. Phillips, who declined the nomination. Faries nominated Huck, R. Phillips second the motion. With no additional nominations, the nominations closed and a vote was called. All members present voted Yea and the motion passed.

The meeting was turned over to Vice Chairperson Huck.

Approval of Minutes: J. Phillips made a motion to approve the minutes as printed. The motion was seconded by R. Phillips. The motion passed with all board members present **voting yeas.**

Approval of Reimbursement of Funds: Sidney Fine Arts Center submitted a request for reimbursement for the Sign Incentive Program. McGown noted that in the packet was a copy of a letter mailed to Jesse Nelson with details of the allowable reimbursements. She explained that the Sign Grant follows the same guidelines as the **Façade** Grant in that materials and/or contractors purchased within Cheyenne County or from a Cheyenne County Chamber member are reimbursed at a rate of 50%. Those materials and/or contractors outside of the County and not members of our local Chamber are reimbursed at a rate of 35%. R. Phillips made a motion to approve the reimbursement at the appropriate rates. J. Phillips seconded the motion. All board members present voted yea and the motion passed.

Review Proposals and COA Requests: The Cheyenne County Chamber submitted a sign proposal. McGown first explained that the Chamber building is not within the

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boundaries of the National Register District and is not required to get a COA, however because the building is individually listed on the Register and is also owned by the City, they wanted to come before the City of Sidney HPB for guidance in choosing an appropriate sign. The initial design, created by Andersen Sign Company showed two brick pillars. The actual sign would consist of two sheets of aluminum (so that it would be two-sided) with laser cut letters and lit from within. Huck stated that the internally lit feature does not comply with our guidelines. J. Phillips agreed that the internally lit design makes it incompatible with the building and suggested flute lighting or spot lighting. Glenna asked for guidance in the sign and indicated that other lighting options would be considered as long as the sign was still visible. McGown will email her some samples that she received from Elizabeth Chase at Nebraska Main Street.

Reservation of Funds and COA Request: Steffens submitted an application to replace the upper floor windows at 844 11th Avenue. J. Phillips asked if additional work would be completed, as windows only projects are not eligible. R. Phillips noted that the brick around the door frame needs attention and would then make the entire project eligible for up to \$5000 matching funds. Steffens would like to replace the storefront door and the windows above it. J. Phillips asked about the air conditioner and also noted that it would qualify.

He will be replacing with aluminum windows in a dark/bronze finished trim and clear glass. He requested the cross bar in the upper windows, which is different from the windows that are in now. If they add awnings to upper floor windows, they will not match the new windows, so they will have to change all the lower awnings as well and they really don't want to do that. R. Phillips asked whether or not he would be replacing or removing the awnings from the lower floor. Steffens noted that if they go with awnings, they will replace the existing awnings to better coordinate with the windows.

J Phillips pointed out that the windows don't currently have the cross bars and would advise not to put the crossbars in. Steffens applying for COA and reservation of funds for replacing upper floor windows, replacement of front door, tuck pointing, and air conditioner removal. McGown asked about the date that Jeff Bush received funds for that building noting that the Incentive Grant follows the property not the owner. This would mean the funding would be on hold until the 5 year mark has been reached. McGown will check into the date and notify Steffens. J. Phillips made a motion to approve the COA and the reservation of funds for upper floor window replacement **without grills/crossbars**, replacement of storefront door, removal of the air conditioner,

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and brick repair. R. Phillips seconded the motion. All board members present voted yeas and the motion carried.

Set February Meeting - McGown explained that Shelley McCafferty will be coming on February 11, from 11:30-1:30 to discuss the Preservation Handbook as well as provide training to the board. The board discussed not having a regular agenda for February and dedicating the entire 2 hours to McCafferty. McGown will notify any applicants that come forward of the delay.

Comments: Person announced that has approached Larry Young regarding becoming a member of the HPB to replace Meagan Smuin. Young is interested, but wants to sit in on a meeting before he commits.

There was discussion regarding our policies and practices as they compare to the State Historic Preservation Office. McGown suggested this be an item of discussion for McCafferty in the future. Person and McGown also pointed out the differences between what the SHPO does versus the role of CLG and how it relates to the City of Sidney and our best interests.

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