

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

URBANA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

APPROVED

DATE: April 1, 2009

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: City Council Chamber, 400 South Vine Street, Urbana, Illinois

MEMBERS PRESENT: Katherine Lipes, Alice Novak, Trent Shepard, Joan Stolz, Mary Stuart, Art Zangerl

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Scott Dossett

MEMBERS ABSENT: none

STAFF PRESENT: Rebecca Bird, Planner; Tony Weck, Recording Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: Glenn Berman, Riley Glerum, Marie Bohl, Corrie Proksa

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Historic Preservation Commission Chair, Alice Novak. Roll was taken and a quorum was declared.

2. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

There were none.

3. APPROVAL OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

The Commission reviewed the draft minutes of the January 7, 2009 meeting. Mr. Shepard made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Ms. Lipes seconded the motion. Upon a vote, the Commission unanimously approved the January 7 minutes as presented.

The Commission next reviewed the draft minutes of the September 3, 2008 closed session. Minor corrections were proposed by Mr. Shepard, Ms. Novak and Ms. Stuart. Mr. Zangerl made a motion to approve the draft minutes of the September 3, 2008 closed session as corrected. Mr. Shepard seconded the motion. Upon a vote, the Commission unanimously approved the minutes as corrected. Mr. Zangerl then made a motion to release the approved minutes of the September 3, 2008 closed session. Ms. Stuart seconded the motion. Upon a vote, the Commission unanimously released the approved September 3, 2008 closed session minutes.

The Commission next reviewed the draft minutes of the January 7, 2009 closed session. Minor corrections were proposed by Mr. Shepard. Ms. Stolz made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2009 closed session as corrected. Ms. Lipes seconded the motion. Upon a vote, the Commission unanimously approved the minutes as corrected. Mr. Shepard then made a motion to release the approved minutes of the January 7, 2009 closed session. Mr. Zangerl seconded the motion. Upon a vote, the Commission unanimously released the approved January 7, 2009 closed session minutes.

4. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

5. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

There was none at this point in the meeting.

6. CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were none.

7. OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

8. NEW PUBLIC HEARINGS

Case #HP 2009-COA-01, 115 W. Main Street (Tiernan's Block/Masonic Temple): application to rehabilitate an extension on the third floor of the rear façade, R Rentals, applicant.

Ms. Novak opened the public hearing in regards to this case and asked for the City staff report.

Ms. Bird presented the staff report to the Commission. Staff recommended that the Commission grant the requested Certificate of Appropriateness for the proposed changes to the extension as presented, as said changes were consistent with the review criteria of Section XII-6.B of the Urbana Zoning Ordinance. Ms. Novak asked if there were any questions from the Commission regarding the staff report. Questions from the Commission were addressed by Ms. Bird. Ms. Novak then asked if there were any questions from the Commission to the applicant. Questions from the Commission were addressed by the applicant, Glenn Berman.

Ms. Novak asked if there were any proponents of the application for Certificate of Appropriateness who would like to address the Commission. There were none. Ms. Novak then asked if there were any opponents of the application for Certificate of Appropriateness who would like to address the Commission. There were none. Ms. Novak then closed the public participation portion of the hearing and asked for Commission discussion. Following a brief discussion, Mr. Zangerl made a motion to grant the Certificate of Appropriateness for 115 W. Main Street, as the proposed changes to the rear façade of the building were consistent with the review criteria of Section XII-6.B of the Urbana Zoning Ordinance. Ms. Lipes seconded the motion. With no further questions or

comments from the Commission, Ms. Novak asked for a roll call vote. Roll was taken and the votes were as follows:

Lipes – yes	Stolz – yes
Novak – yes	Stuart – yes
Shepard – yes	Zangerl – yes

The motion carried unanimously and the Certificate of Appropriateness for 115 W. Main Street was granted. With no further discussion, Ms. Novak closed the public hearing for this case.

9. NEW BUSINESS

T-Mobile donation for historic preservation activity

Ms. Bird reported to the Commission that the City of Urbana had received from T-Mobile a donation of \$5,000 for historic preservation activities in the city. She reported that the donation was intended to mitigate the adverse effect from the construction of a radio tower on a property listed on the National Register of Historic Places (1106/1110 W. Main Street). She noted that the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency had reserved the right to approve how the money is spent.

Noting the preservation directive set forth in the 2005 Urbana Comprehensive Plan, Ms. Bird suggested that the donation money could be used for the following historic preservation activities:

- historic preservation surveys
- a historic recognition grant program
- a revolving loan program for historic properties
- a downtown historic district
- the designation of civic buildings as landmarks

Other preservation projects suggested were as follows:

- a National Register district for the West Urbana neighborhood
- research and recognition of Urbana's Nobel, Pulitzer and other award winners who have made substantial contributions in their fields

Staff recommended that the Commission discuss the historic preservation activities listed in the staff report and provide a recommendation to the City Council of one or more projects that should be funded with the donation from T-Mobile. Questions and comments from the Commission were addressed by Ms. Bird and following a brief discussion, the Commission chose to defer making any formal recommendations to a future date.

10. MONITORING OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Ms. Novak reported that the Mumford House would remain in its original location. Ms. Stuart expressed appreciation to Ms. Novak for her leadership on the Mumford House issue. It was also reported that the Royer House, 801 W. Oregon Street, had been placed on the market for sale.

11. STAFF REPORT

Ms. Bird reported to the Commission on the following topics: plaques for historically designated properties/districts; the arch at Buena Vista Court; and the plaque for the Roger Ebert house, to be dedicated on April 22, 2009 at the house at 410 E. Washington Street. Ms. Bird also reported to the Commission on the amicus brief regarding the Chicago Historic Preservation Commission, and on the status of the siding removal workshop. In addition, she reported to the Commission on the rehabilitation work being done on 902 E. Main Street and posed the question of the house's eligibility for National Register inclusion. Lastly, she reported to the Commission on the pending National Register nomination for 1106 S. Lincoln Avenue, the Alpha Gamma Delta fraternity house.

12. STUDY SESSION

There was none.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A brief announcement was made by Ms. Lipes.

14. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Mr. Zangerl moved that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Lipes seconded the motion. With all Commission members in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Submitted,

Robert Myers, AICP
Planning Division Manager