

Grand Forks Historic Preservation Commission
255 North Fourth Street
P. O. Box 5200
Grand Forks, ND 58206-5200

Minutes
February 13, 2024

Commissioners present: Chuck Flemmer, Bill Caraher, Paul Conlon, Gordon Iseminger, Doug Munski, Sandy Slater, Judy Swisher, Brian Carlson, Nicole Derenne, Jacey Johnston

Meeting called to order at 6:31 pm.

1. Approval of minutes from January 9th 2024. Moved Swisher, second Slater. Motion carries.
 - a. Iseminger asked about contractors and are we offering too little, Lincoln Park, GF businesses and Bob's Gas
2. Section 106 Reviews: Administratively reviewed and approved
 - a. 605 N. 4th Street (NHPA)
 - b. 1103 Letnes Drive (NHPA)
 - c. 1123 N. 20th Street (NHPA)
 - d. 1104 S. 16th Street (NHPA)
3. FY2024 grant application – Discussion and vote

The commission was presented with two draft options. Option A being for a total of five projects. In addition to seeking funding for Grant Administration, Technical Assistance, Public Education & Outreach, and Review & Compliance, the Commission proposes funding for a Preservation Master Plan that would be conducted in house by the Coordinator with support from the Commission.

Option B included the standard four projects noted above as well as funding for two additional projects – Historic Contexts for Midcentury Churches and Cold War Grand Forks. It also then includes a Preservation Planning project which is a typical annual project on a smaller scale.

Discussion: Derenne noted that she likes the Master Plan. Swisher also liked the Master Plan and noted that the other projects would still be there down the road. Swisher noted that the Commission hasn't done one like this before so this is an opportunity.

1. Motion: to accept Option A to create a Preservation Master Plan with the support of the Commission.
 - a. Moved Swisher, second Munski. Motion carries. The coordinator will forward the final application for signatures and submission to NDSHPO.

Flemmer noted that plan expands upon the historic contexts and provides more outcomes. Slater recommended a word change for the last sentence of the narrative.

4. Chair Report: Chuck Flemmer
 - a. DDRB meeting on Thursday 11 January reviewed plans for the front façade of the Artisan on DeMers. The owners are being very conscientious about their plans – the changes include reopening the horizontal windows and moving the glass windows to remove the step inside.
 - i. Carlson asked about the Right of Way and the owners had arranged for planters on the front to allow for out-swinging doors.
 - b. The chair and coordinator visited with Marsha Gunderson and Peg O’Leary at the Olive Ann last week to catch up on all things preservation.

5. Coordinator Report: Susan Caraher
 - a. Upcoming meeting with UND and NDSHPO
 - i. The coordinator and chair will attend a meeting on February 28th with representatives from UND Facilities and Administration, and from NDSHPO to discuss mitigation plans for Babcock.
 - b. Urban Renewal mylar maps from 1970: Planning has given us, along with files, two large 42in wide mylar plans of the Urban Renewal area which we could like to get scanned. The coordinator will meeting with Carlson to see whether the JLG scanner will accommodate these plans.
 - c. New 150-word essays – Presidential Visits, Baukol Historic District, Grand Forks Midcentury Schools and the Golden Hour Halibut recipe.
 - i. Caraher noted that the UND class has about 40 mini-histories written. They will be putting together a draft of the publication to see how the project is shaping up.
 - d. Lincoln Park update on meeting with the Mayor – the coordinator met with Mayor Bochenski to discuss possible enhancements to the historic plaza. There are some examples from other communities that utilize QR codes to more comprehensive websites that recognize and commemorate lost neighborhoods. HPC and the Greenway staff will collaborate on updates as time and resources allow.
 - e. GF Police Dept and Sheriff’s Office – The Sheriff’s Office celebrates its 150th anniversary this year. We are working to determine the year of the formalization of

the GF Police Dept. The coordinator asked whether the 1882-3 City Directory is the earliest one published or whether there might be any extant City or County minutes from the 1879-1881 time period that might confirm the organization of the various officials. Lt Stein noted they have turned up four boxes of records, and there might be more records stored in other locations. If Commissioners have other suggestions please advise the coordinator.

- i. Iseminger asked about how the City got the lot that the County is looking to trade the parking ramp. Wondering if there was a building there before the flood.
 - f. NSS mill and overlay this coming construction season for many of the streets and avenues in the Near Southside neighborhood. Belmont Rd will be a reconstruction next year. The Commission has asked that the City takes particular care with the mature trees.
6. Other business:
 - a. Consider the start time for meetings from 6:30pm to 6pm
 - i. Motion to move the meeting time from Moved Johnston, second Derenne.
 - b. Bill Caraher's book, *The Archaeology of Contemporary America*, has now been published and there is a copy in the Commission library if anyone would like to borrow it.
7. Call to adjourn at: 7:30 pm: Moved Munski, second Derenne. Motion carries.

Next meeting is March 12, 2024.