

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF PELLA
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MARCH 8, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chairperson Kermode called the Historic Preservation Commission to order in the Public Safety Complex at 5:00 p.m. Members present were: Don André, Bruce Boertje, Rhonda Kermode, and Lila Turnbull. Staff present: Assistant City Administrator Corey Goodenow and the Deputy City Clerk. Due to heightened public health risks associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, accommodations were made to broadcast this meeting via conference call. No members of the public joined the conference call.

APPROVAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Motion by André, second by Turnbull to approve the tentative agenda. Motion carried 4-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Boertje, second by André to approve the minutes from the February 8, 2021 meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

OTHER BUSINESS/WORK SESSION

Discussion of Historic District Signage

Assistant City Administrator Corey Goodenow presented a selection of historic district signage, including signage that is used in the Sherman Hill Historic District in Des Moines, Iowa. The Commission discussed the signage options and agreed that they liked the look of the Sherman Hill Historic District street signage. The signage would be purchased from Iowa Prison Industries.

Kermode suggested that the Commission apply for a grant from the Marion County Community Foundation to purchase a placard for the Collegiate Neighborhood Historic District. Goodenow explained that street signage would be paid for out of the City's budget. He said he will research historic district signage options and pricing and report his findings back to the Commission.

Discussion of Future Potential Historic Overlay Zone Locations within the City of Pella

Boertje distributed a map he created to identify high concentrations of historic homes located within the original plat of the City of Pella. The Commission discussed the area surrounding the Scholte House, between Main Street and Broadway Street, which would include 32 pre-1930 properties.

Boertje questioned whether the Commission wants to focus on areas that would be easy to form historic districts or focus on those areas that may have more at-risk properties. Turnbull suggested the Commission check with some individuals that live in some of the suggested historic district areas to gauge interest, including in the Scholte Garden area and the section of the map showing over 60 pre-1930 properties in the southeast corner of the original plat of Pella.

The Commission discussed approaching the Oskaloosa Herald or KNIA/KRSL about writing an article on the Collegiate Neighborhood Historic District in order to bring awareness about the district. André suggested including information in the Town Crier as well. Kermode recommended that the Commission work on ideas for an article and/or flyer and discuss them at the next meeting.

Discussion of the Pella Fire Station National Registry Nomination

Kermode reported that Jennifer Price is the individual who will visit the Pella Fire Station and evaluate it for historical significance. Kermode said she will complete a letter of agreement and send it to Price, who will then determine the dates that she is available to visit the Fire Station.

Discussion of Future Public Education/Engagement Activities

Kermode said she is hopeful that a panel discussion and/or other public education/engagement activities can occur later this year. She said having historic homes open for individuals to tour has proven a popular event in the past. Turnbull suggested partnering with the Historic Pella Trust for an event. Goodenow suggested speaking with the Pella Convention and Visitors Bureau about promoting potential events. Kermode said she will speak with Pella Convention and Visitors Bureau Director Jill Vande Voort.

Other

André said he spoke with Candace De Penning about serving on the Commission, but her schedule will not permit an appointment to the Commission at this time. He said he also spoke to Jessi Vos about potentially serving, but she may reside outside the City of Pella limits. Kermode stated that Jill Jansen is considering applying for appointment to the Commission. Kermode suggested Randy Wineland as a potential member.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for April 12, 2021.

Adjourned at 6:12 p.m.