

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF PELLA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
JULY 12, 2023**

Chairperson Cody called the Community Development Committee (CDC) to order in the Memorial Building at 5:30 p.m. Members present were: Patsy Cody, Allissa Grandia, Mike Kiser, Shelly Rikken, Caryn Van Hemert, and Dennis Vander Beek; absent: Jerry Brummel, Nancy Henry, Wayne Stienstra, and Christi Vander Voort. Staff present: Planning and Zoning Director Gerald Buydos, Zoning Analyst Jared Parker, and the Deputy City Clerk. No members of the public attended the meeting.

APPROVAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Motion by Vander Beek, second by Grandia to approve the tentative agenda. Motion carried 6-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Vander Beek, second by Grandia to approve the minutes from the June 14, 2023 meeting. Motion carried 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider a Design Permit Application to Construct an Outdoor Seating Area with a Fence, Tables, and Chairs at 621 Franklin St., Submitted by Artisanal, LLC

Jason Bandstra, on behalf of Artisanal, LLC, submitted a design permit application to add a fence and outdoor seating adjacent to the building at 621 Franklin St. The property is zoned Central Business District (CBD). It is located within the Historic Design District. A summary of the requested project is provided below.

Proposed Project:

1. Add a white PVC fence and outdoor seating to the rear of the building along the alley.

The white color of the proposed fence most closely matches the Pella Color Palette's Sherwin-Williams' Light French Gray (SW0055). The dark, metallic color of the proposed outdoor furniture most closely matches the Pella Color Palette's Diamond Vogel's Grantsburg Gray (H101). While the proposed fence is made of PVC, it will be white, not brightly colored, and it is in a traditional fence style. The applicant has indicated that the fence will look like the fence located across the alley at the Cellar Peanut Pub. The proposed furniture is a dark, metallic color (bistro style tables and chairs).

In evaluating this design application, staff confirmed the design contains colors similar to those found in the Pella Color Palette and meets the requirements listed in the *Architectural*

Design Guidelines. Therefore, staff recommended the design permit application be approved as submitted.

The Committee expressed concerns with having the fence up all year, as the adjacent alley is currently very picturesque and popular with tourists for photos. They were also concerned with having any tables and chairs located on unpaved areas in the grass. Following discussion, the Committee approved the permit with several conditions.

Motion by Van Hemert, second by Rigger to approve the design permit with the following conditions: the fence and seating cannot be on grassy areas and must be contained to the paved drive, the permit is being approved on a temporary, trial basis, to be allowed seasonally (not up in the winter) to be re-evaluated in 2024, and the gate to the fence should be located to the east of the back door to line up with the north-south concrete border of the brick driveway but, if necessary, it could be located to the west of the back door. The Committee also stated that they would prefer that the fence be black, instead of the proposed white. Motion carried 6-0.

OTHER BUSINESS / WORK SESSION

Work Session to Discuss Murals in the City of Pella

Cody asked that this topic be placed on the agenda. She expressed concerns about the Spirit of Pella soliciting artists for future murals in downtown Pella that have not yet been discussed with or approved by the CDC. She stated she has received positive comments about the mural that was painted on the side of 629 Franklin St. The CDC questioned whether the Committee should meet with Spirit of Pella to discuss their concerns. Planning and Zoning Director Gerald Buydos explained that murals do not currently have a formal approval process and that may be something to explore implementing in the future with direction from City Council. The CDC may choose to send a letter to CC to share their concerns. Future potential art installations, such as sculptures, in the City of Pella may also need the same guidance as well.

Next Meeting Date

The next regular meeting is scheduled for August 9, 2023.

Adjourned at 6:40 p.m.