
MINUTES**HUTCHINSON LANDMARKS COMMISSION**

City of Hutchinson

Thursday, October 13, 2016 – 4:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers
125 E. Avenue B, Hutchinson, Kansas

1. Roll Call

Members present: Jo Higgins, Gale Wall, Wes Bartlett, Chelsey Dawson, Greg Holmes and Tony Karam (4:05). Shannon Whetzel was absent.

Staff present: Jana McCarron, Planning Director; Casey Jones, Senior Planner; Aaron Barlow, Associate Planner and Stephanie Stewart, Planning Technician.

2. Welcome by Chairperson**3. Approval of Minutes**

Holmes motioned to approve the September 22, 2016 minutes. Wall seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Projects Approved Administratively: None**5. Projects Approved by the SHPO: None****6. Projects Approved by the City Council: None.****7. New Business****a. Update on the 2016 Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) Grant**

Barlow stated that the RFP's have been sent out and Ben Moore, an architect out of Manhattan, has shown a lot of interest especially in the cost comparison tool. Dawson stated she has worked with him before and praised him.

b. Revised Historic Preservation Action Plan (attached)

Barlow reviewed the revisions to the schedule specifically pointing out date changes.

*Karam arrived

Bartlett added that Jim Seitnater, Downtown Development Director, asked if there would be any interest with the Landmarks members to start up a committee with fellow building owners, real estate professionals, architects and construction developers in planning a Downtown loft tour. Karam stated that many downtown building owners are hesitant to renovate due to high costs. Members agreed that this would be a great opportunity to help increase interest in downtown and preservation.

Higgins motioned to approve the Historic Preservation Action Plan revisions. Holmes seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

8. Old Business

a. Inventory of Houston Whiteside Historic District properties

Barlow distributed a complete list, a recommended change list, and the map of the Houston Whiteside District with changed properties annotated to each member. The Commission discussed the proposed changes and concurred with staff. Barlow will prepare a staff report summarizing the proposed status changes for formal action by the Landmarks Commission at their next meeting.

9. Other Business

a. Highlights from CLG Training and Kansas Preservation Conference, September 28-29, 2016, in Abilene, KS.

Higgins, Bartlett, Stewart and Barlow all attended the conference and had a great time. They discussed a few highlights from the meeting. Higgins stated we need a disaster plan for the historical districts; that way if FEMA comes in they know which lots/properties are marked historical. Another suggestion was to survey all the neighborhoods over 50 years old. The key note speaker addressed nine factors of why historical districts are financially better for the economy vs new subdivision construction (i.e., density, walkability, money, jobs, etc.). Members would like to bring the conference to Hutchinson and/or host something similar and bring in a speaker, hand out awards, etc. McCarron stated that there are several items on the current action plan that need attention before including more. She thanked the members for all their patience while waiting for the new preservation planner to be hired.

b. Open Comments from the audience.

None

10. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephanie Stewart, Planning Technician

Approved this 10th day of November, 2016.

Attest: *Jan Balon*