Farmington City Historic Preservation Commission Minutes

February 26, 2024

In attendance: David Barney, David Petersen, Dorothy Arnold, Shauna Wardrup, Kathy Cornejo, Dana Chapman, Darren DeGraw, Ashley Swensen, Melissa Layton.

- Nomination of six historic homes to the MPS (Theme 1800s) status: Sherry has the draft documentation for the six homes complete. She needs to make appointments with the six homeowners to get access to the interior of the homes. For the nomination, she needs to describe the layout, and whether it is altered in any way or original. The state has a meeting early this year to review them.
- 2. The Rock Mill Historical Property meeting was an introduction to what the City wants to do. GBS architect sought insights and opinions from the public. What are the vision citizens might have? In November, the planning phase will wrap up and decisions will be made as to further use of the site. The consensus at this meeting is that the emphasis should be on historical value and on enhancing historical interest. The Outbuildings are restorable and should come before mill restoration.
- 3. Nomination of the Main Street Historic District to the Farmington Landmarks Register. Two meetings were held to address the interests and concerns of the two areas of Main Street, which are divided into the Northern group, north of State Street, and the Southern group, south of State Street. The Northerners were considering adoption of the OTR zoning. Southerners were concerned about any changes, and the proposal from the Southern group involved changes to the Landmarks Register wording which are under discussion. The proposal is to change the Landmarks Register so the Historic Preservation Commission would not have any review of the exterior changes to historic homes. A Zoning Administrator would only encourage owners to counsel with an historic preservation architect, a reconnaissance level survey professional, tax consultant or others. They would not need to obtain a certificate of appropriateness to make the changes to the outside of the homes. Only the demolition of an historic building would require a certificate of appropriateness by the Historic Preservation Commission. All Historic Preservation Commission members present strongly objected to these changes. More public meetings would need to be scheduled.
- 4. Changes to the by-laws of the Historic Preservation Commission: All terms would be staggered four-year terms. All other provisions would stay the same.
- 5. Plaque program: No updates yet. Kathy Cornejo is working on the professional flyer for the mailing to all homeowners in Farmington with homes 70 years or older.
- 6. Should we offer Historic Preservation Commission logo apparel? The commission said, "Yes, good idea." Farmington City has a catalog of clothing that could have our logo added.

7. Under the "Other" agenda item, we asked Dave Petersen about his conversation with the UDOT representative about the I-15 overpass changes. He said they will not move the frontage road up to State Street but will need to remove the Orson Richards Clark historic home at 399 West State Street. Clark Park would not be impacted so the monument and gazebo would not be removed. There was a discussion about tunneling under 400 West for the trail system. UDOT is reviewing this option.