

MINUTES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
EDUCATION TASK FORCE
Thursday, December 6, 2012
Conference Room B, City Hall

Committee Members Present: Chairperson David Klavitter, Committee Members Bob McDonell, Julie Schlarman, and Benjamin Beard.

Committee Members Excused: None.

Staff Members Present: David Johnson.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

AFFIDAVIT OF COMPLIANCE: Staff presented an Affidavit of Compliance verifying the meeting was being held in compliance with the Iowa Open Meetings Law.

MINUTES: Motion by McDonell, seconded by Klavitter, to approve the September 5, 2012 minutes as submitted. Motion carried by the following vote: Aye – Klavitter and McDonell; Nay – None; Abstain – Schlarman and Beard.

TASK FORCE MEMBERS: Chairperson Klavitter welcomed new Education Task Force Committee Members Julie Schlarman and Benjamin Beard. The Committee Members and staff introduced themselves and provided personal backgrounds and their interest in historic properties.

HISTORIC EDUCATION TASK FORCE STATUS: Staff Member Johnson provided a brief overview of the City of Dubuque Historic Preservation Program. The Task Force discussed their role, noting their focus on education and outreach within the Dubuque community. The Task Force discussed the importance of restoring and fostering the community's perception of the Historic Preservation Program. The Task Force reviewed the many benefits of historic preservation for the city of Dubuque and historic neighborhoods. Staff Member Johnson reviewed financial incentives available locally and at the state and federal level to promote the rehabilitation of historic properties.

The Task Force reviewed past projects that have been successful and made an impact within the community. The Task Force noted those projects have concluded and there has been some recent turnover on the Task Force; consequently, now is the perfect time to re-evaluate the direction and issues of the Task Force. Staff Member Johnson noted there are numerous opportunities within their charge to pursue. Committee Member Schlarman noted she has contacted the National Trust for Historic Preservation and hopes to coordinate with them on training opportunities in the City of

Dubuque. Staff Member Johnson noted the Historic Preservation Commission has recently discussed issues with regard to preservation training and quality of work that would be within the scope of the Education Task Force.

The Task Force began discussing holding an event in recognition of National Historic Preservation Month in May. Staff and Committee Members discussed past events held in conjunction with Historic Preservation Month as well as other non-related events. Staff Member Johnson explained the National Trust for Historic Preservation provides suggested activities for communities and preservation commissions to undertake in recognition of Preservation Month. He noted those activities are informative and helpful but lack a creative component and a distinctiveness for Dubuque. The Task Force suggested they start thinking about ideas for an annual event that is creative, fun and something that the Dubuque community would look forward to annually. Staff Member Johnson noted the event could be something that the Task Force and Commission builds on every year. He suggested the programming be less technical and a little more fun and engaging to reach a broader range of people.

By consensus, the Task Force agreed to further discuss the challenges and opportunities for advancing the City of Dubuque Historic Preservation Program at the January 3rd Education Task Force meeting. The Task Force also agreed to begin thinking about a possible Preservation Month activity.

ITEMS FROM PUBLIC: None.

ITEMS FROM STAFF: None.

ITEMS FROM COMMISSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



David Johnson, Assistant Planner



Adopted