

HASTINGS HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the Meeting of April 16, 2024

Held at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, Volunteer Room

I. Call to Order and Quorum Youngren, Alitz Edell, Bremer, Simacek, Toppin, and Peterson.

Absent: Smith, Borchardt, and McCoy

Staff: Fortney

II. Chair Pro Tempore

A. Elect Chair Pro Tempore

Motion by Commissioner Simacek to nominate Commissioner Youngren as the Chair Pro Tempore for the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Alitz Edell.

Approved 7-0

III. Minutes:

A. March 19, 2024 Approved by Chair Toppin

IV. Certificate of Approval Review

A. 215 7th Street W – New Fence

Fortney presented the staff report. He explained that the Design Guidelines state in a couple different ways that privacy fencing is not appropriate for enclosing the front yards of locally designated Heritage Preservation Sites.

Dayna Nosan, applicant, explained they want a privacy fence to calm their large dog and provide him maximum space because their large rear garage and driveway take up their rear yard. They also want to block the view of their neighbor's constant construction project and enclose their basement windows with fencing.

Rita Dahl of 205 7th Street West said several neighbors have semi-transparent fencing for containing their dogs and she is concerned with the look of a full 6-foot tall privacy fence along the front of historic homes.

Commissioner Bremer asked other Commissioners if they thought the Design Guidelines would be met with a shorter fence or one that was not fully opaque within the front half of the side yard. Commissioner Youngren said the Commission should be concerned with consistency of past decisions and setting a precedence for future requests.

Motion by Commissioner Simacek to approve the request with the following condition, seconded by Commissioner Alitz Edell. Approved 7-0

- The portion of the fence within the front half of the side yard is limited to 42-inches tall and must be semi-transparent.

B. 205 7th Street W – House and Garage Shingles and Gutters

Fortney presented the staff report. He explained that staff routinely approves roofing permit requests for replacement of like for like materials. He added that the commission must review roofing that is an alternate material.

Commissioner Simacek asked where the downspouts are located and why it looks like the gutters extend under the eaves. Rita Dahl, applicant, responded that she uses cup chains instead of downspouts and she wasn't sure why the gutters run all around the roof. She added they are more of a modern design, and she would like to use half-round gutters to match the home, but only where they are necessary. Approved 6-0

Motion by Commissioner Alitz Edell to approve the request as presented, seconded by Commissioner Peterson. Approved 7-0

C. 109 6th Street E – Front Door (Committee approved)

Fortney explained that a committee was formed to provide immediate review of a door replacement. This was because of several unique and unfortunate circumstances. Most importantly the door was not in proper operation and could not lock. There was another door replaced and two windows prior to notification of Planning Department staff. Fortney showed the commission photos of those changes and commented that they would not be appropriate for contributing houses but added that the subject house is noncontributing and has a different standard of appropriateness. Fortney said staff is only updating the HPC and not suggesting the HPC provide approval for work that has been completed. He added that prior to closing out the permit as complete, he wanted to inform the HPC and document the issue.

V. OHDS – Original Hastings Design Standards Review

VI. Business and Information

A. Preservation Awards Committee

The Preservation Awards Committee showed the Commission properties in the running for awards and the Commission chose ones that exemplified the purpose of the categories: 523 Ramsey St, 605 11th St W, 535 5th Street W, and 200 2nd Street W.

Fortney said awards are scheduled to be presented at the May 20, 2024 City Council Meeting and will include the century home plaque award.

VII. Adjourn

Motion by Commissioner Peterson to adjourn at 9:00 pm, seconded by Commissioner Alitz Edell. Approved 7-0

Respectfully Submitted - Justin Fortney