

HASTINGS HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the Meeting of May 21, 2024

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

I. Call to Order and Quorum Youngren, Bremer, Simacek, Toppin, and Smith
Absent McCoy, Borchardt, Alitz Edell, and Peterson.
Staff: Fortney

II. Minutes:

A. April 16, 2024 Approved by Chair Toppin

III. Certificate of Approval Review

A. 222 7th Street W – Replace fence and garage door trim. Fortney presented the staff report. He explained the fence was being replaced nearly as it existed, which met the design Guidelines. He added that the first contractor told the homeowner they had acquired permission and a permit when they had not and were subsequently let go by the homeowner.

Motion by Commissioner Simacek to approve the requests as presented, seconded by Commissioner Smith. Approved 5-0

B. 615 3rd Street W – New handrail on sidewalk step. Fortney presented the staff report. There was very little discussion.

Motion by Commissioner Smith to approve the request as presented, seconded by Commissioner Youngren. Approved 5-0

C. 218 2nd Street E – Replace a window with a door. Fortney presented the staff report. Commissioners discussed the historical integrity of that portion of the building, issues with grade differentials between the inside floor and sidewalk, and appearance of the door. Staff explained that the subject wall must have been constructed after 1924.

Commissioner Youngren said he grew up a block away and knows the subject wall was facing or adjoining the former adjacent building so the windows are certainly modern.

Chair Toppin suggested that the residential corridor should be considered for required egress if possible.

Motion by Commissioner Simacek to approve the request with the following conditions, seconded by Commissioner Youngren. Approved 5-0

1. The proposed door must be painted to match the building.
2. Any grade differential must be accommodated on the inside of the building, if necessary, rather than on the city sidewalk.

D. 307 6th Street E – New porch posts and floor, new fence, and adding architectural brackets. Fortney presented the staff report. Fortney said many of these features

are new construction that the HPC approved in the early 2000's based on research. There was very little discussion on the requests to replace the fence, porch floor, and porch posts.

Motion by Commissioner Smith to approve fence, porch floor, and porch posts as requested, seconded by Commissioner Youngren. Approved 5-0

The commissioners shared appreciation for the work the applicants are putting into the house. They said the Design Guidelines require evidence from photographs or physical markings that architectural details existed before they can be approved. Chair Toppin said if there was any evidence they existed, similar styles from the era could be considered. Commissioner Youngren recommended that the applicants look for photographs from St. Bonifacius Church that was across the street and for markings on the home's eaves that would suggest these details existed. Chair Toppin said, many of these modest homes did not have any ornate details. Commissioners encouraged the applicants to reapply with any of that information.

Motion by Commissioner Bremer to deny the porch and eve ornamentation due to lack of evidence they existence, seconded by Commissioner Youngren. Approved 5-0

IV. OHDS – Original Hastings Design Standards Review

V. Business and Information

A. City Hall Project Update. Fortney updated the Commission on the construction progress.

VI. Adjourn

Motion by Commissioner Bremer to adjourn at 8:13 pm, seconded by Commissioner Smith. Approved 5-0

Respectfully Submitted - Justin Fortney