

**CITY OF SAINT PETER
HERITAGE & PRESERVATION COMMISSION
Regular Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, January 25, 2022
Community Center – St. Peter Room**

The meeting was called to order by Community Development Russ Wille at 5:34 pm. Commissioners Larry Potts, Remo Alexandri, Joe Metzen, and Brian Oviatt were in attendance. Absent were members Dustin Sharstrom and Sharon Lytinski. City staff present were Russ Wille and Administrative Secretary Cindy Moulton.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Potts, seconded by Oviatt to approve the agenda as presented. All voting in favor, the agenda was approved.

Election of Officers

A motion was made by Alexandri, seconded by Oviatt to nominate Potts as Chairperson. With a lack of additional nominations, all members voting aye, Potts was elected as Chair.

A motion was made by Alexandri, seconded by Metzen to nominate Oviatt as Vice Chairperson. With a lack of additional nominations, all members voting aye, Oviatt was elected Vice Chair.

Approval of Minutes

Oviatt amended the minutes by striking the word “on” and replacing it with “between” in the sentence, “Oviatt stated that the brick *between* the columns is not the original brick”. A motion was made by Oviatt, seconded by Metzen to approve the minutes of the November 23, 2021 regular meeting as amended. All members voting aye, the motion carried.

Sandwich Board Regulations

At the November 23, 2021 HPC meeting, the Commission discussed and suggested changes to the sandwich board sign regulations. Wille prepared a draft of the suggested changes and presented them to the Commission.

In reviewing the draft, the Commission felt that the text on the sandwich board sign should not be limited to particular fonts. They also felt that number ten (10) “Sandwich boards shall not utilize movable or scrolling text.” and number 11) “The text upon the sandwich board sign shall contain no more than three (3) colors” be eliminated from the regulations.

A motion was made by Oviatt, seconded by Metzen recommending approval of the proposed sign regulations with the deletion of number ten (10) and eleven (11) as well as amending the City Ordinance to include the new sandwich board sign regulations. All members voting aye, the motion carried.

International Property Maintenance Code

At a previous HPC meeting the Commission asked that the City Council consider an ordinance that would allow the City to order certain repairs or maintenance efforts to buildings within the Heritage Preservation district as well as regulations pertaining to inside signage.

Wille stated that in 2015 the City Council declined to adopt the International Property Maintenance Code. However, the City Council did establish an additional revolving loan product with favorable terms in an attempt to incent the maintenance and repair of historic structures.

Potts indicated that he would have a hard time defending the International Property Maintenance Code as well as the regulation of interior signage.

Wille stated that the City Council will be discussing the matter at their workshop on Monday, January 31, 2022 at 5:30 pm in the Governors Room at the Community Center. Members were invited to attend.

Reports

Wille reported that the owners of 101 South Minnesota, which suffered severe damage from a fire, are waiting for a final report from their engineer to determine whether the building is salvageable.

Wille said there has been an inquiry by an interested party regarding the development of the property located between 108 and 120 South Minnesota Avenue.

Adjourn

A motion was made Metzen, seconded by Alexandri to adjourn. With all members voting aye, the meeting adjourned at 6:07 pm.