

MINUTES
CITY OF RICHMOND, INDIANA
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
Monday, December 8, 2014
Richmond Municipal Building
3rd Floor Council Chambers
5:30 P.M.

Attendance: Ron Hughes X , Lynn Johnstone , Chera LaForge X ,
Beth Lunsford X , Jill Nelson X , Rhonda Irvine , Michael Thuman X ,
Sue Mathews , Sarah Mitchell, Staff X , Ashley Schultz, Staff X ,

Jill Nelson called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

NEW BUSINESS

Approve Minutes – The November minutes were reviewed. Michael Thuman Moved. Seconded by Ron Hughes to adopt the November minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Approve 2015 Schedule - The schedule for meetings in 2015 was reviewed. Michael Thuman Moved. Seconded by Chera LaForge to adopt the schedule as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Expiration of Terms - The terms of Michael Thuman and Lynn Johnstone are complete at the end of 2014. Both members are able to be appointed by the Mayor for another 3-year term if they so choose. Sarah will contact both members about reappointment and relay their answers to the Mayor.

OLD BUSINESS

Historic Richmond Today - Chera asked members of the Commission to forward ideas for potential episodes. She is currently writing an internship description for a student from IU East or Earlham. This internship starts in January. The plan is to film 3-4 episodes at one time. The intern will edit the video and prepare it for viewing on WCTV. The Commission agreed to make episodes with fewer images and voice-overs to decrease editing time. Ideas were also discussed for a YouTube channel of smaller 3-5minute segments. Ron suggested contacting Matt Stegall to film his renovation of two N 10th St properties. Mr. Bartel, speaking from the audience, suggested the episodes be more unique to Richmond, rather than general how-to guides. Jill and Chera inquired about financial resources for video production, including salvage from BEP program and grants from Indiana Landmarks for preservation education.

Endangered Properties List - Members asked for an individualized letter from Staff that included the name and address of each property owner. If property owners call Staff in response to the letter, they will be invited to a future Commission meeting. It was decided that additional levels of information should be given to these property owners, including cover letters, brochures, and/or personal interactions with Commission members. The creation of a website specific to the Commission and individual pamphlets for each district were discussed. Staff will contact City IT department to create a new link from the main page.

Richmond High School NR Application - Sarah stated the application is complete and on the agenda for the State's spring meeting.

Acquisition of the Little Depot - Sarah stated this acquisition is in the final stages.

Paulee Wall (Depot District) - Sarah stated this conflict is in litigation, so Staff is unable to speak about it. Jill asked if the Commission would need to approve demolition because the Wall exists in a Conservation District. Sarah will clarify if an Unsafe Building Order has been placed upon the property.

Funding Sources - Staff asked the Commission to provide direction in what funding they would like to pursue for preservation and investment in local homes. Beth suggested contacting Ball State and Wright State Universities for resources and student projects. Michael noted an example in Cleveland Heights OH, where the local government purchased several adjacent lots, demolished 1/3 of them, and then allowed local college students to restore the remaining properties. New owners were held to strict maintenance standards. Jill suggested inquiring into TIF funding and/or support from EGG.

Michael Thuman motioned for adjournment. Seconded by Chera LaForge.
Meeting adjourned at 6:15pm

Next meeting:

Monday, January 12, 2015

Richmond City Council Chambers

5:30 p.m.