



**MINUTES**  
**Preservation Commission**  
**Monday, September 18th, 2023**  
**City Hall/Civic Center – 5:30 p.m.**

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1. **Roll Call:** Ms. Gibson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Members Present:** Rhodes, Norris-Price, Ashby, Brown, Bittle, Grant, Rye-Sanders (ex-officio)

**Members Absent:** Zurlinden, Falcone

**Staff Present:** Gibson

**Guests:** Geoff Young

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2. **Approval of Minutes:**

Ms. Brown moved to approve the minutes of August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023, seconded by Mr. Grant. The motion to approve the minutes passed with a unanimous voice vote.

3. **Communication and Reports:**

- a. Educational and Technical Assistance Committee
  - a. No Report
- b. Nomination and Hardship Committee
  - a. No Report
- c. Work Plan Committee
  - a. No Report
- d. Certificate of Appropriateness Committee
  - a. No Report
- e. Preservation Month Subcommittee
  - a. No Report

4. **Old Business:**

- a. NW Historic District Research – There was a discussion on the Northwest Historic District and progress related to the project. The commissioners discussed the needed next steps and possible outreach that can be done in an effort to support the district designation. The commissioners discussed a possible community meeting at the Hickory Lodge or Senior Center to provide information to residents about the potential preservation district.

## **5. New Business:**

- a. Rescheduling of October Meeting Date and Sidewalk Cleanup – Due to scheduling conflicts for some commissioners, it was proposed that the regularly scheduled October meeting be moved to the following week. Mr. Grant made a motion to move the meeting from October 16<sup>th</sup>, to October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4:30 p.m. Ms. Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed and the October Preservation Commission meeting will now be held on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. The Commission plans to use this meeting as a work day to cleanup a historic sidewalk in front of the former home of General John A. Logan.
- b. Brain-storming session for Educational & Technical Assistance Committee – The commissioners discussed the possibility of creating a Preservation Card to be handed out by commissioners. The card discussed would be non-personalized and have general Preservation Commission information such as the website or a QR code to show the recipient more information about the Commission. Ms. Brown discussed her interest in getting local school kids involved and interested in Preservation. Mr. Grant suggested outreach to local teachers to get them and their students involved by means of curriculum or a field trip. Ms. Brown supported the idea of reaching out to teachers for a possible field trip to Woodlawn Cemetery to educate students. Oakland Cemetery was also brought up as another possible field trip location for students. Mr. Rhodes discussed the possibility of headstone preservation and restoration taking place at the historic cemeteries. Mr. Rhodes asked if any of the local high schools or colleges had any type of masonry program that the Commission could reach out to, or a local masons union. It was suggested that someone reach out to RJ Monument to ask what they do or who they use in terms of preservation and restoration of headstones. Ms. Brown suggested an informational guide or brochure for the cemeteries. Mr. Rhodes discussed the idea of using “Box City”, a company that sells boxes that children can design and build into mock cities, as part of a community outreach project. Ms. Norris-Price mentioned that the state preservation division is a good source for the commission to use, and stated that they even have a program in which they will provide a workshop related to cemetery preservation upon request.

## **6. Comments from the Public, Commission Members, or Staff:**

- a. Mr. Young discussed his interest in preservation education. Mr. Young stated that he thinks the Preservation Commission should try to have a table at more City events for better community outreach opportunities.
- b. Ms. Rye-Sanders asked about the progress the consultants working on the inventory of the Northeast Quadrant have made. Ms. Gibson stated that the consultants provided their first monthly report recently.

## **7. Adjournment:**

Ms. Brown moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:34 pm, and was seconded by Mr. Ashby.