

Historic Preservation Commission Minutes
March 26, 2018, 7:00 p.m.
Lafayette City Hall – Board of Works Room

Commission Members in Attendance: John Burns, Julie Ginn, Sean Lutes, Shawna McCully, Kurt Wahl

Absent: Kevin Klinker, Patti Morgan, Glen Vick

Staff in Attendance: Dann Keiser, Historic Preservation Officer; John Collier, Assistant Director of Economic Development

Guests: Craig Hadley, Tippecanoe County Historical Association

Noting a quorum, President Kurt Wahl called the meeting of the Lafayette Historic Preservation Commission to order at 7:00 pm.

Approval of February, 2018 Minutes

John Burns moved to recommend approval of the minutes of the February 26, 2018 meeting. Shawna McCully seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Public Relations and Education Committee report

No report was made by the Public Relations Committee.

District Committee report

No report was made by the District Committee.

COA Committee report

Kurt Wahl, Chair of the COA Committee, reported that the COA Committee met on Wednesday, March 21, 2018 at 3:00 pm. One COA was discussed for 522 Columbia Street. Mr. Wahl initiated discussion on the COA.

522 Columbia Street

Mr. Wahl reviewed the scope of work included with the COA application for 522 Columbia Street which is owned by the Tippecanoe County Historical Association (TCHA). The COA involves the review of 2 replacement doors (one as an ADA accessible egress-only door), a guard rail on an existing concrete curb/wall along the Columbia Street sidewalk, replacement of the existing concrete entry walk with a brick walk with historic trolley rail edging (rails from downtown Lafayette) and removal of the existing raised lawn area and Masonic Temple sign to accommodate installation of a brick plaza with donor recognition pavers. The COA Committee reviewed the concept at its meeting, but additional information was necessary which Craig Hadley, Executive Director of TCHA, provided after the COA Committee meeting. Mr. Hadley gave an overview of the building renovation project and mentioned that the focus of this COA application was on the site work and two doors in order to accommodate a dedication event at the end of April. An additional COA will be submitted in the future for the next phase of proposed modifications being proposed for the exterior of the building.

Mr. Wahl went through each of the items to be discussed with this COA application starting with

the doors; door A (the ADA accessible egress-only door on the south wall facing the future plaza) and door B (the main entrance door on the east wall facing the future plaza). Door A will replace an existing egress-only, painted steel, double door. The proposed design shows a 2-panel door with transom and side light. There was considerable discussion about the design of the door system as there was no detail provided as to whether or not the door, transom and side light had glass included or were solid panels. Following discussion, Mr. Hadley agreed to contact the architects to have the door design modified to be a single, 48" (maximum width), flush, smooth steel door with no glass, with hollow metal frame and solid panel sidelight and solid panel transom with reveals. The entire door system will be painted a color to blend with the building and not bring attention to the door since it is an egress-only door.

The proposal for door B is to replace the existing aluminum storefront door with a dark bronze door with a glass top panel and solid bottom panel. The Commission was uncomfortable with the style and color of the proposed door since it won't match the style of the existing, likely original, door or any of the adjacent clear aluminum colored, metal framed windows. Mr. Hadley clarified that they'd like to change the windows in the future, but for now the existing windows will remain due to funding concerns. Following discussion, Mr. Hadley agreed to contact the architects to modify the door design to be a clear aluminum, narrow style frame to match the existing door as closely as possible; similar to a Kawneer Series 190 door.

Next, the Commission discussed the site modifications including the removal of the existing masonry sign and raised lawn. The existing raised lawn area and adjacent curbs/walls along the entry walk, and east side of the site will be removed to accommodate a brick plaza. At one point during discussion of the site, the Commissioners and Mr. Hadley walked down the hall to look out the window to see the site, which is directly across the street from City Hall. The proposed plaza will consist of brick pavers etched with donor names. A photo sample was provided. The existing concrete entry sidewalk with rolled curb edges will be removed and replaced with a brick walk made up of salvaged brick street pavers (actual sample was provided) with historic trolley rail edging, two soldier courses of brick street pavers and a concrete curb edge flush with the grade of the new brick walk, trolley rail edging and surrounding donor brick pavers on the plaza. The existing concrete curb/wall along the south edge of the existing raised lawn area will be maintained as a grade separation between the existing side walk along Columbia Street. A new guard rail will be installed atop the existing concrete wall. The proposed rail is made up of posts and top rail of stainless steel tubes with brushed finish and a series of horizontal steel cables between the top rail and ground. The Commission was uncomfortable with this rail as proposed because it is not consistent with other fences/rails in the local historic district and suggested black post and rail fencing. Mr. Hadley agreed to contact the architects to modify the rail to be an aluminum, black fence with posts and top rail only and no pickets and no additional horizontal cross rails.

Julie Ginn moved to recommend approval of the COA with the modifications listed above. Shawna McCully seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Following the vote, Mr. Collier requested that future COA applications for this project be submitted with more detail and in a timely manner to avoid having to make design decisions during the HPC meeting.

Staff Report

Mr. Collier reminded Commissioners about the Preserving Historic Places conference in Columbus, IN, April 17 – 20 and encouraged Commissioners to attend all or part of the conference. Mr. Collier

plans to attend all of the conference and Mr. Wahl and Mr. Vick will attend portions of the conference. Mr. Collier also stated that he is working on an in-town education seminar, similar to last year's, to make it easier for more Commissioners to meet the requirement for a continuing education credit. Feedback from the Commissioners in attendance was that a Wednesday or Thursday after 5 p.m. would be preferred.

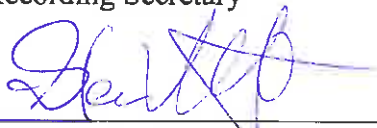
Public Comment/ Adjournment

President Wahl asked for additional comments from the public; there were no additional comments.

Julie Ginn made a motion to adjourn the meeting. John Burns seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Collier, Recording Secretary

Approved: 

Glen Vick, Secretary
Historic Preservation Commission