

CARMEL HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

CAUCUS ROOM, CARMEL CITY HALL

1 CIVIC SQUARE, CARMEL, IN

February 8, 2024 – 6:00 P.M.

Minutes

1. Call to Order

Fred Swift called the meeting to order at 6:08 P.M.

2. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Fred Swift, Nick Kestner, Jess Lawhead, Emily Ehrgott, + two vacancies

Commissioners Not Present: Bill Sanders

Staff: Mark Dollase, Alex Brooks

Guests: Rosemary Dunkle

3. Approval of Minutes (1/11/2024)

Jess motioned to approve the January minutes. Emily seconded. Motion approved 4-0.

4. Hearing of Visitors

None

5. Certificate of Appropriateness Review

None

6. Report on Staff Approvals

None

7. Financial Report

a. Budget update

Alex said the current budget remains \$100,000 with a non-reverting fund of \$400,348.47.

8. Old Business

a. ArcGIS update

Alex said he was told the city of Carmel is improving their own website, which will include the ArcGIS survey. Mark said he hopes the survey becomes accessible soon.

b. National Register Grant Program

Mark listed the parameters of the proposed program, which would give partial funding to consultants to write National Register nominations for historic properties/districts. He then named some of the potential benefits that come with having a home or district listed on the National Register. In addition, he detailed the process of getting an application made, including the Determination of Eligibility form. He recommended making the Determination of Eligibility form part of the process that the grant would cover. Fred asked if places can reapply for the National Register if they have already been removed. Mark said he believed so but it would depend on the owner's interest. He added that it would need to be determined if this would be a matching grant of 50/50, or something else. Rosemary said she was supportive of the idea and endorsed the idea of a matching grant. Mark noted a potential concern that consultants might raise their own prices if they knew the entirety of their rates would be funded by the Commission. Jess motioned to continue the program with an 80/20 matching percent, seconded by Emily. Motion passed 4-0. Jess asked about how this information will be disseminated. Mark mentioned mailing programs and the Commission website.

c. 14420 Cherry Tree Rd. Designation

Mark gave a description of the history and style of the home, which retains many of its original features. Nick motioned for approval for creating a Preservation Plan, seconded by Emily. Motion passed 4-0.

9. New Business

a. Commissioner Appointments/Officer elections

Fred mentioned that any new member would likely not want to be elected chairman, so he proposed making those selections now. Fred nominated Jess as president, seconded by Emily. Motion passed 4-0. Nick nominated Fred to remain as vice chairman, seconded by Emily. Motion passed 4-0.

b. Spring façade grant program

Mark gave the recommendation for another \$25,000 to be given for the spring façade grant round. Jess mentioned adding information about how to reach contractors from Landmarks' database. Emily motioned to set aside \$25,000 for the spring façade grant program, seconded by Nick. Motion passed 4-0.

10. Other Business

11. Announcements

Mark said a CLG report on the Carmel commission will be compiled in the upcoming months.

12. Adjournment

Jess moved to adjourn the meeting. Nick seconded. Motion passed 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 P.M.



Fred Swift, Vice Chairperson,
Carmel Historic Preservation
Commission



Alex Brooks, Recording Secretary