

PROCEEDINGS
OF
LOWELL DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
CITY OF LOWELL
Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 6:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE; ROLL CALL

The Meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Chairman Doyle and Lori Gerard called roll.

Present: Steve Doyle, Ardis Barber, Lisa Plank and Jake Davenport

Absent: Julie DeVoe,

Also Present: Dan Czarnecki, Craig Fonger and Lori Gerard

2. APPROVAL OF THE ABSENCES

IT WAS MOVED BY DAVENPORT and seconded by PLANK to approve the absences of DEVOE

YES: 4 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 MOTION: CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

IT WAS MOVED BY BARBER and seconded by DAVENPORT to approve the agenda as written

YES: 4 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 MOTION: CARRIED

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

IT WAS MOVED BY DAVENPORT and seconded by PLANK to approve the minutes of September 28, 2021 as written.

YES: 4 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 MOTION: CARRIED

5. PERMIT APPLICATION

- a. 325 W Main – A permit application for the removal and replacement of the concrete front steps at the Museum was presented by DPW Director Dan Czarnecki. It was noted that the design was originally written by a former DPW Director in 2019. Plank stated that this was due to finding a 1931 photo with original steps constructed with

wood. Chairman Doyle presented a proposed design drawing using a masonry base with wood railings and post. The idea was to replicate the upper balcony and widows walk. It was questioned if concrete forms or blocks would be used. Plank stated that she believed there was a form in the Museum basement that might work. Davenport noted that whatever is done needed to be low maintenance. Czarnecki commented that he would talk with City Manager Mike Burns about engaging an architect for drawings for footings and railings.

IT WAS MOVED BY BARBER and seconded by PLANK to table discussion for 325 W Main steps until more information was gathered.

YES: 4 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 MOTION: CARRIED

- b. Main Street Bridges – Czarnecki also presented an application for installing metal planter boxes on the railings of the bridges along the Flat River. Czarnecki stated that last fall the Showboat Garden Club was granted money to spruce up the downtown. The group met and came up with a design for 11 metal flower boxes that would be removable. Tubing for water boxes would run along the backside of the bridge. Flowers would be changed out seasonally. Czarnecki noted that he has gotten approval for flower boxes from MDOT as they own the bridges.

IT WAS MOVED BY PLANK and seconded by DAVENPORT to approved the 11 flower boxes on the bridges as presented.

YES: 4 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 MOTION: CARRIED

6. GRANT APPLICATIONS

None.

7. PROJECT UPDATES.

- a. 96-100 W main – Scott Brown - roof completed, waiting for paid invoice
- b. 222 W Main – King Milling – exterior renovations
- c. 101 W Main – BGR Investments LLC - exterior renovation

Brent Slagell of BGR Investments sent an email request to have his deadline for 101 W Main extended.

Steve Doyle requested and extension for 222 W Main project until May 15, 2022.

IT WAS MOVED BY consensus to extend the deadlines. Doyle abstained from voting.

YES: 3 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 MOTION: CARRIED

8. OLD BUSINESS.

None.

9. NEW BUSINESS.

The 2022 HDC meeting schedule was presented.

IT WAS MOVED BY DAVENPORT and seconded by PLANK to approve the 2022 meeting schedule

YES: 4 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 MOTION: CARRIED

When looking at the grant money fund balance it was noted that until funds are used we could not apply for more funds to the Lowell Area Community Fund. Current balance is \$30,000.

It was mentioned that the City Hall as well as the Museum is in need of painting. Chairman Doyle also stated that the Museum needs some foundation work done.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

IT WAS MOVED BY DAVENPORT and seconded by BARBER to adjourn at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Lori A. Gerard