	Minutes of the New Bern Historic Preservation Commission May 19, 2021 – 5:30 P.M.	
The New Bern Historic	c Preservation Commission (HPC) held its regular meeting on	Wednesday
	conference room of the Development Services Department, 303	
	er år i programmer i er vilker	
1. OPENING OF M	EETING WITH ROLL CALL	
	ler by Chair Cox at: 5:30 pm.	
Members Present:	Dr. Ruth Cox, Chair	
	Tripp Eure, Vice-Chair	
	James Bisbee	
	George Brake	
	Peggy Broadway	
	Christian Evans	
	Joseph Klotz	
	Annette Stone	
Members Excused (E	Z)/Absent (A): Ellen Sheridan (E)	
A quorum was preser		
Staff Present: Matthew	w Schelly, AICP, City Planner, Historic Preservation Administ	rator
City Attorney Present	•	
Others Present: Sarah	n Afflerbach, Michelle Lynn, Craig & Tina Springer, Ralph R.	Leonard
	kracin Melizon (1985) et arra maran per tau	
	N OF CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION (WOODS);	
	N OF NEW COMMISIONER	
Γhis item was done aft	er 4A.	
	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)	
	ling of the minutes: Commissioner Evans; Second by Commis	ssioner
Bisbee. The motion car	rried unanimously.	
4 TIE L DINIGO ON		
	CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS:	
	roduction, Swearing-In, Summary of Process	
	ed the HPC and the quasi-judicial hearing process and Staff Sch	nelly swore
	vith the following oath:	
	ell the truth to the best of your knowledge?"	
	Michelle Lynn, Craig & Tina Springer, and Ralph R. Leonard r	esponded
in the affirmative.		
Chair Cox continue	ed with the summary of the hearing process.	
O DDECENIO ACTON	A OF CEDETEICATE OF ADDRESS ATION (MOODS)	
	N OF CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION (WOODS);	
	N OF NEW COMMISIONER Out this resist in the resulting. There were no introduction of an	
Inis item was done	e at this point in the meeting. There was no introduction of a ne	ew

45	
46	Item 4 continued at this point.
47	APPLICATIONS
48 49	Chair Cox called to begin the hearings for the applications for a Certificate of Appropriateness.
50 51 52	B. 311 Bern St. – to include the installation of new, wood window blinds and new, wood, 4-foot-high fencing in the Primary AVC. The applicant was expected to join the meeting remotely, however had not yet joined the
53	meeting, so this item was moved to the end of the hearings.
54 55 56	<u>C.</u> <u>809 Broad St.</u> (Country Biscuit) – to include new masonry veneer below windows in the Primary and Secondary AVCs
57	
58	Staff Overview
59	Staff Schelly provided a review of the application and internal review documents. The
60	Zoning and Inspections Form was reviewed. The existence of a staff recommendation
61	was indicated.
62	A I's 4 C 4
63	Applicant Comment
64 65	Chair Cox asked the applicant, Michelle Lynn, if she had any additional comments. Ms.
66	Lynn indicated she had no additional comments.
67	Proponents' and Opponents' Comments, Others with Evidence, City, County, or
68	other Government Agencies
69	Chair Cox asked if there is anyone who is a proponent or opponent of the application, has
70	standing, or is a City, County, other government person who would like to present
71	evidence. None spoke.
72	•
73	Staff Recommendation
74	Staff Schelly submitted the description of the project and the following Historic District
75	Guidelines, Statements of Reason, and Recommendation as appropriate to this application:
76	Modifications
77	3.2.1
78	Contemporary Materials
79	5.5.2
80	5.5.3
81	5.5.4
82	5.5.5
83	Statements of Reason, based on the information contained in the application, in Staff's
84	judgment are:
85	1. The structure is a non-contributing resource;

3. The proposed design, components, and materials meet the requirements of the

2. The project is within the Primary and Secondary AVCs;

Guidelines;

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87

88

89	4. The Zoning Administrator and the Chief Building Official have reviewed this project
90	and commented accordingly;
91	5. The project is not incongruous with the Guidelines.
92	Staff recommends the Commission approve this application to include new masonry
93	veneer below windows in the Primary and Secondary AVCs.
94	
95	Applicant's Comments
96	Chair Cox asked the applicant, Michelle Lynn, if she had any additional comments. Ms.
97	Lynn indicated she had no additional comments.
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99	Commissioners' Questions and Comments
100	Chair Cox asked the Commissioners if they had any questions or comments.
101	
102	Vice Chair Eure thanked the applicant for providing the information requested at the
103	Design Review meeting. He also pointed out that there is a paragraph on page 5-1 of the
104	Guidelines that reads, "Masonry materials found in the historic districts include brick,
105	stucco, stone, concrete masonry units, architectural concrete masonry units, slate and
106	terracotta tile." He indicated the proposal uses a masonry product that looks like stone
107	and the proposed material fits in that paragraph.
108	
109	Chair Cox asked for any other questions from the Commissioners. None were heard.
110	1 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
111	MOTION by Commissioner Evans to find the application Not Incongruous with New
112	Bern's Code of Ordinance sections 15.411 – 15.429 and New Bern's Historic District
113	Guidelines based on the following specific guidelines and findings of fact:
114	Modifications
115	3.2.1
116	Contemporary Materials
117	5.5.2
118	5.5.3
119	5.5.4
120	5.5.5
121	Findings of Fact are:
122	1. The structure is a non-contributing resource;
123	2. The project is within the Primary and Secondary AVCs;
124	3. The proposed design, components, and materials meet the requirements of the
125	Guidelines;
126	4. The Zoning Administrator and the Chief Building Official have reviewed this project
127	and commented accordingly;
128	5. The project is not incongruous with the Guidelines.
129	Commissioner Bisbee seconded the motion.
130	Chair Cox asked if there were any more comments. No comments were heard.
131	Motion passed: Unanimously
132	motion pubbon. Onuminously
134	

133	MOTION by Commissioner Brake to issue the CoA; Second by Commissioner
134	Bisbee.
135	Motion passed: Unanimously
136	*
137 D	<u>402 Dunn St.</u> – to include the installation of a new shed in the Secondary and
138	Tertiary AVCs. This is an after-the-fact application.
139	
140	Staff Overview
141	Staff Schelly provided a review of the application and internal review documents. The
142	Zoning and Inspections Form was reviewed, including a comment from the Zoning
143	Administrator that the accessory building must be relocated to meet setback requirements
144	and an 8-foot separation from the primary structure. The existence of a staff
145	recommendation was indicated.
146	
147	Applicant Comment
148	Chair Cox asked the applicant, Craig Springer, if he had any additional comments. Mr.
149	Springer did have some comments.
150	
151	Proponents' and Opponents' Comments, Others with Evidence, City, County, or
152	other Government Agencies
153	Chair Cox asked if there is anyone who is a proponent or opponent of the application, has
154	standing, relevant evidence, or is a City, County, other government person who would
155	like to present evidence. None spoke.
156	
157	Staff Recommendation
158	Staff Schelly submitted the description of the project and the following Historic District
159	Guidelines, Statements of Reason, and Recommendation as appropriate to this application:
160	Accessory Structures
161	2.6.1
162	2.6.3
163	Design Principles
164	3.1.1
165	3.1.2
166	Foundations
167	4.1.2
168	4.1.3
169	Walls, Trim and Ornamentation
170	4.2.4
171	4.2.5
172	Windows, Doors and Openings
173	4.3.2
174	4.3.3
175	4.3.4
176	Masonry

177	5.1.2
178	5.1.3
179	5.1.5
180	$\underline{\mathbf{Wood}}$
181	5.2.2
182	<u>Paint</u>
183	5.4.1
184	5.4.2
185	5.4.3
186	Contemporary Materials
187	5.5.1
188	5.5.2
189	5.5.3
190	Statements of Reason, based on the information contained in the application, in Staff's
191	judgment are:
192	1. The structure is a contributing resource in the <i>Tight Weave</i> development pattern;
193	2. The project is within the Secondary AVC;
194	3. All but the shutters of the proposed design, components, and materials meet the
195	requirements of the Guidelines;
196	4. The Zoning Administrator and the Chief Building Official have reviewed this project
197	and commented accordingly;
198	5. Other than the shutters, the project is not incongruous with the Guidelines.
199	Staff recommends the Commission approve this application to include the installation of
200	a new shed in the Secondary and Tertiary AVCs with the following two conditions:
201	1. The Zoning issues be resolved to the satisfaction of the Zoning Administrator.
202	2. The shutters either be fitted with the appropriate hardware or be removed.
203	
204	Applicant's Comments
205	Chair Cox asked the applicant, Craig Springer, if he had any additional comments. Mr.
206	Springer did have some comments. He pointed out that the shutters are permanently
207	attached to the walls of the shed and cannot be removed.
208	
209	Commissioners' Questions and Comments
210	Chair Cox asked the Commissioners if they had any questions or comments.
211	
212	Commissioner Bisbee asked for the clarification that the approval is requested without
213	knowing where the shed will be located. Chair Cox confirmed that adding that the
214	recommendation of the staff includes requiring it meet the Zoning requirements. Staff
215	Schelly added that the Guidelines only dictate that an accessory structure cannot be in the
216	Primary AVC, which is also a Zoning requirement.
217	
218	Vice Chair Eure suggested the applicant choose to add shutter dogs to the shutters since
219	removal of the shutters is too difficult. The applicant agreed to add shutter dogs.

220

221	Chair Cox asked that the motion include documentation that the shed has been moved to
222	the compliant location. The applicant showed photos and a plan showing the shed in that
223	location when it was delivered, but they had it moved to the non-complaint location.
224	research when it was delivered, but they had it moved to the hon-complaint location.
225	Chair Cox asked for any other questions from the Commissioners. None were heard.
226	Chair Cox asked for any other questions from the Commissioners. Thome were heard.
227	MOTION by Commissioner Brake to find the application Not Incongruous with New
228	Bern's Code of Ordinance sections 15.411 – 15.429 and New Bern's Historic District
229	Guidelines based on the following specific guidelines and findings of fact:
230	Accessory Structures
231	2.6.1
232	2.6.3
233	Design Principles
234	3.1.1
235	3.1.2
236	Foundations
237	4.1.2
237	4.1.3
239	Walls, Trim and Ornamentation
240	4.2.4
241	4.2.5
242	
242	Windows, Doors and Openings 4.3.2
243	4.3.3
244	4.3.4
246	Masonry
247	5.1.2
248	5.1.3
249	5.1.5
250	Wood
251	5.2.2
252	Paint
253	5.4.1
254	5.4.2
255	5.4.3
256	
257	Contemporary Materials 5.5.1
258	5.5.2
259	5.5.3
260	Findings of Fact are:
261	1. The structure is a contributing resource in the <i>Tight Weave</i> development pattern;
262	2. The project is within the Secondary AVC;
263	3. All but the shutters of the proposed design, components, and materials meet the
264	requirements of the Guidelines;
201	roganoments of the outdennes,

265	4. The Zoning Administrator and the Chief Building Official have reviewed this projec
266	and commented accordingly;
267	5. Other than the shutters, the project is not incongruous with the Guidelines.
268	Approval includes the following conditions:
269	 The Zoning issues be resolved to the satisfaction of the Zoning Administrator and
270	the HPA be notified and a site plan provided when this is done.
271	• The shutters either be fitted with the appropriate hardware or be removed.
272	
273	Chair Cox asked if all Commissioners understood the motion. No discussion.
274	Commissioner Evans seconded the motion.
275	Motion passed: Unanimously
276	, and the same of
277	MOTION by Commissioner Evans to issue the CoA; Second by Commissioner
278	Brake.
279	Motion passed: Unanimously
280	·
	508 Johnson St to include replacing rear porch steps with wood landing, steps, and
282	railing, removing a portion of screening and all vinyl ceiling on the upper porch, adding
283	new screening and screen doors on both the lower and upper porches in the Tertiary AVC
284	
285	Staff Overview of the Application
286	Staff Schelly provided a review of the application and internal review documents. The
287	applicant's representative, Ms. Afflerbach, clarified that the application includes a new
288	gas lamp in the Primary AVC. The existence of a staff recommendation was indicated.
289	Swo swarf are recently and the same state of the
290	Conflict
291	Chair Cox asked if there are any conflicts for this case. None were heard.
292	
293	Completeness
294	Chair Cox asked the Commission if anyone had any issues with the completeness of the
295	application. There was no response.
296	
297	Applicant Comment
298	Chair Cox asked Afflerbach, the authorized representative for the applicant, if they had
299	any additional comments. Afflerbach indicated they had no additional comments.
300	
301	Proponents' and Opponents' Comments
302	Chair Cox noted there is nobody in the audience, so there are no proponents, opponents,
303	rebuttals, others with standing, or comments from the government.
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305	Staff Recommendation
306	Staff Schelly submitted the description of the project and the following Historic District
307	Guidelines, Statements of Reason, and Recommendation as appropriate to this
308	application:
200	apphoanon.

309	<u>Utilities</u>
310	2.3.6
311	Modifications
312	3.2.1
313	3.2.2
314	3.2.3
315	3.2.4
316	3.2.5
317	Entrances
318	4.4.5
319	$\underline{\mathbf{Wood}}$
320	5.2.1
321	5.2.2
322	<u>Paint</u>
323	5.4.1
324	5.4.2
325	5.4.3
326	5.4.4
327	Contemporary Materials
328	5.5.4
329	Statements of Reason, based on the information contained in the application, in Staff's
330	judgment are:
331	1. The structure is a contributing resource in the <i>Tight Weave</i> development pattern;
332	2. The project is within the Primary and Tertiary AVCs;
333	3. The proposed design, components, and materials meet the requirements of the
334	Guidelines;
335	4. The Zoning Administrator and the Chief Building Official have reviewed this project
336	and commented accordingly;
337	5. The project is not incongruous with the Guidelines.
338	Staff recommends the Commission approve this application to include replacing the rear
339	porch steps with wood landing, steps, and railing, removing a portion of screening and all
340	vinyl ceiling on the upper porch, replacing all vinyl railing with wood railing, and adding
341	new screening and screen doors on both the lower and upper porches in the Tertiary AVC.
342	Commissioners' Questions and Comments
343	Chair Cox asked the Commissioners if they had any questions or comments.
344	None were heard.
345	
346	MOTION by Vice Chair Eure to find the application Not Incongruous with New Bern's
347	Code of Ordinance sections 15.411 – 15.429 and New Bern's Historic District Guidelines
348	based on the following specific guidelines and findings of fact:
349	<u>Utilities</u>
350	2.3.6
351	<u>Modifications</u>
352	3.2.1

353		3.2.2
354		3.2.3
355		3.2.4
356		3.2.5
357		Entrances
358		4.4.5
359		Wood
360		5.2.1
361		5.2.2
362		Paint
363		5.4.1
364		5.4.2
365		5.4.3
366		5.4.4
367		Contemporary Materials
368		5.5.4
369		Statements of Reason, based on the information contained in the application, in Staff's
370		judgment are:
371		1. The structure is in the <i>Tight Weave</i> development pattern;
372		2. The lamp post is within the Primary AVC and the majority of the work is in the Tertiary
373		AVC;
374		3. The proposed design, components, and materials meet the requirements of the
375		Guidelines;
376		4. The Zoning Administrator and the Chief Building Official have reviewed this project
377		and commented accordingly;
378		5. The project is not incongruous with the Guidelines.
379		J. The project is not incomplain with the contract of
380		Commissioner Bisbee seconded the motion.
381		Motion passed unanimously.
382		Chair Cox asked if there were any questions at this point. None were heard.
383		Oldir Con abled if alere were any questions at this pentity is a second
384		MOTION by Commissioner Evans to issue the CoA; Second by Commissioner Bisbee;
385		Motion passed unanimously.
386		Trionon pussed diminiously.
387	F	509 Broad St to include a new accessibility ramp to the front entrance in the
388		Primary and Secondary AVCs.
389		Timaly and Secondary 114 es.
390		Staff Overview of the Application
391		Staff Schelly provided a review of the application and internal review documents. The
392		existence of a staff recommendation was indicated.
393		existence of a stail recommendation was indicated.
393		Applicant Comment
395		Chair Cox asked Afflerbach, the authorized representative for the applicant, if they had
393 306		any additional comments. Afflerbach indicated they had no additional comments

397	
398	Proponents' and Opponents' Comments
399	Chair Cox noted there is nobody in the audience, so there are no proponents, opponents,
400	rebuttals, others with standing, or comments from the government.
401	
402	Staff Recommendation
403	Staff Schelly submitted the description of the project and the following Historic District
404	Guidelines, Statements of Reason, and Recommendation as appropriate to this
405	application:
406	Modifications
407	3.2.1
408	3.2.2
409	Entrances
410	4.4.1
411	Accessibility and Life Safety
412	4.7.1
413	4.7.2
414	4.7.3
415	Statements of Reason, based on the information contained in the application, in Staff's
416	judgment are:
417	1. The structure is a contributing resource;
418	2. The project is within the Primary and Tertiary AVCs;
419	3. The proposed design, components, and materials meet the requirements of the
420	Guidelines;
421	4. The Zoning Administrator and the Chief Building Official have reviewed this project
422	and commented accordingly;
423	5. The project is not incongruous with the Guidelines.
424	Staff recommends the Commission approve this application to include a new accessibility
425	ramp to the front entrance in the Primary and Secondary AVCs with the following
426	condition:
427	• The applicants shall provide a landscape plan that meets the requirements of the
428	Guidelines to the HPC Administrator prior to completion of the construction and
429	the approved landscaping will be installed after October 1, 2021, but before March
430	30, 2022.
431	
432	Applicant's Comments
433	Chair Cox asked Afflerbach, the authorized representative for the applicant, if they had
434	any additional comments. Afflerbach indicated they had no additional comments.
435	,
436	Commissioners' Questions and Comments
437	Chair Cox asked the Commissioners if they had any questions or comments.
438	Commissioner Bisbee questioned about the existing metal columns and handrails when
439	the porch is raised. Afflerbach replied that the columns with be cut and a base placed on
440	them and that the handrails will be removed and then reinstalled.

441	Vice Chair Eure asked about replacing the front steps. Afflerbach replied that they will
442	be replaced in order to adjust for the new porch height.
443	Commissioner Brake asked Schelly why the landscaping is not to be installed until after
444	October 1. Schelly replied that we generally recommend that in order to avoid the heat of
445	the summer. He recommended the condition that a landscape plan be provided.
446	Commissioner Stone asked for more information about the handrail for the ramp.
447	Afflerbach indicated it would be round metal, like the other handrails. The pickets have
448	to extend to the surface of the ramp. She also explained other details about the
449	dimensions of the ramp and platforms. She ahs been working with the Chief Building
450	Inspector to ensure their approval.
451	
452	MOTION by Commissioner Bisbee to find the application Not Incongruous with New
453	Bern's Code of Ordinance sections 15.411 – 15.429 and New Bern's Historic District
454	Guidelines based on the following specific guidelines and findings of fact:
455	Modifications
456	3.2.1
457	3.2.2
458	Entrances
459	4.4.1
460	Accessibility and Life Safety
461	4.7.1
462	4.7.2
463	4.7.3
464	Statements of Reason, based on the information contained in the application, in Staff's
465	judgment are:
466	1. The structure is a contributing resource;
467	2. The project is within the Primary and Tertiary AVCs;
468	3. The proposed design, components, and materials meet the requirements of the
469	Guidelines;
470	4. The Zoning Administrator and the Chief Building Official have reviewed this project
471	and commented accordingly;
472	5. The project is not incongruous with the Guidelines.
473	Vice Chair Eure seconded the motion.
474	Commissioner Bisbee amended his motion to add the following condition:
475	• The applicants shall provide a landscape plan that meets the requirements of the
	Guidelines to the HPC Administrator prior to completion of the construction and
476	the approved landscaping will be installed after October 1, 2021, but before March
477	
478	30, 2022. Vice Chair Eure amended his second for the amended motion.
479	
480	Motion passed unanimously.
481	MOTION by Commissioner Vlotz to issue the CoA. Second by Commissioner Riches
482	MOTION by Commissioner Klotz to issue the CoA; Second by Commissioner Bisbee;
483	Motion passed unanimously.
484	

485 G. 808 E. Front St. – to include the following changes to the approved CoA in all of the 486 AVCs: change the foundation to a solid brick foundation with flood vents, add a third floor 487 front balcony, increase the height of the side walls, remove the roof dormers, change single 488 columns at the rear porches to triple columns. 489 490 Staff Overview of the Application Staff Schelly discovered the Owner's Authorization is not for the project being presented. 491 492

MOTION by Commissioner Stone to continue the application to the next HPC Regular Meeting on June 16, 2021, at 5:30 pm, in the Development Services Conference Room. due to the absence of authorization for Ms. Afflerbach to represent the owner.

Chair Cox asked if anyone had any comments. None were heard.

Second by Commissioner Klotz.

Motion passed unanimously.

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Chair Cox returned to item B, which was moved to the end of the hearings.

B. 311 Bern St. – to include the installation of new, wood window blinds and new, wood, 4-foot-high fencing in the Primary AVC.

The applicant had still not yet joined the meeting remotely. However, Schelly requested a short recess to contact the applicant by phone due to the fact that the computer was offline for 30 to 45 minutes and the applicant may have attempted to join the meeting during that time period.

After the recess, Schelly indicated that he could not reach the applicant. A discussion ensued about how to proceed. Since the most recent application was dated in January 2021. the following motion was made:

MOTION by Commissioner Bisbee to continue the application to the next HPC Regular Meeting on June 16, 2021, at 5:30 pm, in the Development Services Conference Room, due to the absence of the applicant.

Second by Vice Chair Eure.

Chair Cox asked if anyone had any comments. None were heard.

Motion passed unanimously.

5. OLD BUSINESS (non-hearing items tabled or continued from a previous meeting)

A. 221 E. Front St. – update on this Demolition by Neglect (DBN) case A walk-through of the property was conducted on May 3, 2021. The walk-through included the owner, Chair Cox, Vice Chair Eure, Tim Thompson and John Young of the Preservation Foundation, the City Attorney, the Assistant City Attorney, and John Wood of the State Historic Preservation Office.

A meeting of this group, without the owner and plus Schelly, was announced to be held the next day to discuss the observations and compare those with the list created by the PDBN Work Group from their site visit the previous month. This all to create a list and timeline to send to the owner for DBN items to repair.

529	В.	104 Johnson St. – update on this Demolition by Neglect (DBN) case
530		Schelly reported that he met the previous month at the site with the owner's cousin, David French, who
531		has the power of attorney, along with a family friend, Jennifer Knight. Schelly toured the
532		exterior of the property and discussed with them the process for DBN. French indicated
533		they are in the ReBuild NC program to repair the house for damages due to Hurricane
534		Florence. They indicated to Schelly that the program was scheduled to send inspectors to
535		the site over the next few months. We need to send French the list of repairs required from
536		us.
537		Commissioner Broadway asked how this would affect our guidelines. Schelly replied that
538		the ReBuild NC is new and probably less than a year old with little to no track record on
539		how long their projects can take. Changes to the New Bern Historic District Guidelines
540		are not necessary. We will just need to be patient. Almost all of the damage is on the inside.
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542	6.	GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS
543		None
544		
545	7.	NEW BUSINESS
546		None
547		
548	8.	HPC ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT
549	<u>A.</u>	Report on CoAs Issued 4/14/2021 – 5/10/2021
550		Chair Cox referred to the list in the agenda (below).
551		MAJORS and AMENDMENTS:
552		1. 308 Metcalf St. – many various modifications in all AVCs
553		2. 611 E. Front St. – new roofed wood trellis in the Tertiary AVC
554		3. 617 E. Front St. – remove rear stoop and roof, construct a new screened porch, brick
555		outdoor kitchen, brick patio paving, and a wood outdoor shower enclosure, in the
556		Secondary and Tertiary AVCs
557		4. 802 E. Front St. – new 2½ story infill house
558		5. 811 E. Front St. – amendment to COA to change metal roofing to composite shingles
559		MINORS:
560		1. 602 Middle St. – parking paving expansion
561		2. 221 E Front St. – tree replacements
562		3. 508 Johnson St. – tree replacement
563		4. 601 Hancock St. – drainage slot
564		5. 717 Pollock St. – garage door replacement
565		6. 317 Pollock St. – sign

B. Report on CoA Extensions Issued since the Prior Regular Meeting None

7. 901 Broad St. – HVAC unit on roof

C. Other Items and Updates

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Schelly reported he contacted the owner of the **Bear Town Market beer garden fence**, as directed by the HPC, but was only able to leave a message.

Schelly reported that we have been recertified as a **Certified Local Government** (CLG), which is a historic preservation designation. This is important because it provides us with multiple benefits, including free use of John Wood, free trainings and resources, and allows us to apply for grants for the community. This is done every year. They commended us for several things we initiated last year: two extra work groups – the Awards Work Group and the Historic Property Owners Support (HiP) Work Group.

9. **COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:**

Chair Cox asked about how far up the chain of command the **awards proposal** has progressed. Schelly reported he handed it to his superior, Jeff Ruggieri, who asked if it was discussed with Alderman Bengel. Chair Cox confirmed that it was, plus with the City Attorney twice. Cox then asked to be informed when it comes to the Aldermen so that someone can make a presentation. Some discussion about a small budget request, which would need to be approved by the Aldermen.

Commissioner Evans asked about the replacement **retaining wall** on the corner of Broad and George Streets. Schelly reported that he has seen it, that they seem to have stopped construction, and that he needs to call them about it.

Commissioner Broadway asked about the house at **715 E. Front St.** Schelly reported on status of the construction of the approved project. Chair Cox asked if the PDBN Work Group would take this up.

Vice Chair Eure reported that Commissioner Klotz has drafted up some suggestions for improving the **Demolition by Neglect procedures** and the Guidelines Updates Work Group will be working on these in the coming months.

Commissioner Klotz discussed the end of his term and the importance of the HPC to preserve the heritage and the existence of this city. He added the need for more staff for this function and better communication among departments, both of which he blames for the extreme length of time it had taken to resolve many of the DBN cases in a reasonable length of time, not 18 to 30 years. Schelly indicated his proposal in the budget for a computer program that will answer many of the questions from the public, freeing up staff time. Vice Chair Eure mentioned that HPC members have talked to the Ward 1 Alderman, previous and current, about the need for more staffing.

10. ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn the meeting: Commissioner Bisbee; Second by Commissioner Evans Motion passed: Unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 pm.

Minutes approved: August 18, 2021

Dr. Ruth Cox. Chair

Matthew Schelly, City Planner, Secretary