



APPROVED: June 2, 2010

**CITY OF ALBANY
LANDMARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION
Council Chambers, 333 Broadalbin Street
Wednesday, May 5, 2010
6:30 p.m.**

MINUTES

Landmarks Commissioners Present: Oscar Hult, Linda Herd, Rosalind Keeney, Heidi Overman, Dave Pinyerd and Robyn van Rossmann

Landmarks Commissioners Absent: Erin Johnson

Staff present: Planner II Anne Catlin, Administrative Assistant Heather Gravelle

Others present: 4 others present

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hult called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

APPROVAL OF the April 7, 2010 MINUTES

Motion: Commissioner Herd moved to approve the April 7, 2010 meeting minutes. Commissioner Keeney made the following corrections: Second page, strike "Keeney had postcards made" and add that the postcards were purchased from the Albany Visitors Association. Additionally, on the last page, Keeney stated she was suggesting a monthly newsletter article, not just one article. Commissioner Overman seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

401 MAIN STREET CHURCH

Catlin explained she spoke to Dianne Dennis, Public Works Director, and Ron Irish, Transportation Systems Analyst regarding a proposed traffic circle on Main Street, which is a street improvement project to attempt to handle the traffic issues. She referred members to a handout with an aerial view of the property showing the location of the proposed traffic circle. Catlin stated initially they thought the church would need to be moved, but with this new draft design, it may not. One idea was to move it to City-owned property next to the skate park (on 6th). The church has no parking currently, which poses a problem. Also, the church needs a lot of maintenance. Public Works staff would like initial ideas regarding the church, where it might be moved and/or how it might be used. Catlin noted that if the site is not needed for the right-of-way, selling it may be an option.

Catlin said the City purchased the church property many years ago in anticipation of needing the property for right-of-way. Keeney questioned if they could shift the right-of-way line over a bit to allow more room for entering the church. Hult agreed and verified northward into the parking lot across the street. Chair Hult mentioned the church could be used as an art center or something similar. The LAC concluded that the City should try to avoid moving the church if possible, given its condition and size. Catlin said she will report to Public Works with the LAC's preliminary discussion and ideas.

PROJECT CONSULTATION

Rod McTimmond's, 723 Walnut Street SW. Catlin explained that Mr. McTimmonds would like initial input on the possibility of an addition to their historic home. Catlin explained they currently do not have a family room and would like to add one on to the side of the home. Due to the landscaping and patio in the back, they do not want to add onto the back of the house. The home sits over a basement level and the living room is on the main level and they have about 17 feet between the house and property line on the south side. She explained the McTimmonds would like a side addition towards the back of the house, that would avoid the original part of the house.

Herd questioned if the addition would be on the living room level or the basement level. McTimmonds responded the living room level. Commissioners asked how big of an addition he wanted. Mctimmonds answered 12 feet by 23 feet length wise into the backyard. Herd stated she notices many surrounding houses have side entrances and look very similar to what Mctimmonds is proposing. She added that she would tentatively be in favor of this project because there is plenty of room, and the proposed addition seems to be architecturally relevant to the historic character of the home. Others agreed.

Hult reminded him this is a preliminary review and discussion and explained to McTimmonds that his proposal may not be approved once it is officially presented to the LAC. McTimmonds stated he understood. Catlin added she will provide him with the design guidelines so he can utilize them when designing his addition, prior to submitting to the LAC.

2010 RESIDENTIAL REHAB GRANT APPLICATION REVIEW

Catlin distributed the handout 2010 Residential Rehab Grant Applications to members for discussion. She reminded the LAC they can choose to fully fund the proposed applications, or they can decide to partially fund. Hult asked if members had any reservations on the three applications received and commented he feels they all meet the criteria and seem like reasonable projects, at an affordable price and should be funded.

Herd stated her only concern is with 418 7th Avenue SW, which is a request to help pay for restoration of the front and side entry doors leading to the porch. She explained the quote included in the application packet has the price for replacement doors; it needs to be clear it is restoration, not replacement that would be approved. Members agreed.

Commissioner Pinyerd was concerned that the applications would not make a large visual impact to benefit the neighborhood and community. Herd agreed, but added she feels it is important to have the grant program and show the community that funds are available and are being utilized to restore historic homes. She added sometimes the projects are not always visible, but they do engender the stewardship towards these historic homes and do inspire them to take on projects to make the homes livable. These types of projects maintain the integrity not only structurally, but also historically.

Members discussed whether to fully fund all of the grant projects. Catlin noted that any remaining grant funds could be carried over to next year's grant funds.

MOTION Commissioner Overman moved to fund all three applications as requested and roll the remaining amount to next year. Commissioner van Rossmann seconded. **Motion passed 4-2 Hult and Pinyerd voting no.**

PUBLIC HEARING (HI-01-10): 206 4th Avenue SE

Hult called the public hearing on planning file HI-01-10, a request to reconsider a condition of approval for replacement siding, to order. Catlin explained the Bontrager's are asking the LAC to reconsider their approval for the type of siding they can use. The LAC originally approved them to use GAF cement siding.

Commissioner Overman asked if the issue is cost. Catlin responded yes, the Bontragers say it is too expensive, and thought it would not be a good match to the asbestos siding. Catlin informed the Bontragers to bring the materials they would like to use instead of the GAF cement siding so the LAC could review and discuss options.

Motion: Herd moved to stay with the original decision the LAC made directing the Bontrager's to utilize the GAF cement siding. Keeney seconded.

Discussion

Hult asked for clarification as to what they want to use. Catlin responded they would like to use wood shake siding that is in stock at Parr Lumber. Hult commented the original decision to use the GAF cement siding was a better match than the proposed wood. Catlin asked if members would approve the wood shake on the back only, which would not be visible, and direct them to use the GAF cement siding on the front.

Keeney asked if the Bontragers have officially requested to use the wood shake on the front. Catlin affirmed they did. She added the Bontrager's didn't realize the cost of the GAF cement siding and feels they may not move forward at all on the project at this point and we will end up with an unfinished fire damaged home. Catlin informed the LAC the Bontragers attempted to appeal the decision, but missed the deadline. Herd stated she is withdrawing her first motion and would like to make a new one.

Motion Herd moved to stay with the original LAC decision to use the GAF cement siding for the front of the house, and to accept the suggestion to use the wood shake siding on the back of the home. Keeney Seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

PRESERVATION MONTH

Catlin provided members with an update on preservation month activities. She explained the preservation booth will be at the farmer's market, with the new banner that has "Albany Preserves" on it. The coloring contest is also coming up. The coloring sheets will be at the farmer's market, various locations downtown, and City Hall. The awards for the coloring contest will be held at a City Council meeting towards the end of the month.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the Landmarks Advisory Board is scheduled for June 2, 2010, at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Hult adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:02 p.m.

Submitted by

Reviewed by

Signature on file

Signature on file

Heather Gravelle
Administrative Assistant

Anne Catlin
Planner II

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