

Decorah Historic Preservation Commission
April 9, 2018 Meeting Minutes (DRAFT)

1. Roll call. Meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m. by Chair Mark Muggli (via speakerphone). Present were Adrienne Coffeen, Lois Humpal, Hayley Jackson, Kris Lynch, Diane Scholl and Judy van der Linden. Also present was Decorah citizen Janelle Pavlovec.

2. Review and approval of Minutes from March 12, 2018, recorded and distributed by Commission secretary Judy van der Linden. Minutes were adopted unanimously.

3. DHPC Membership. Mark asked Ryan Engelman if he wants to join DHPC. He is considering it.

4. Charles Altfillisch (=CA) project.

- a. 2018 Historic Preservation Award.** Owners of all five homes have responded that they will accept the award. All should be present at the ceremony on May 17 except Grimstads. *Mark will write a press release about the ceremony.* He plans to open it with a short biography of CA using a Powerpoint presentation. Descriptions of the five homes will follow, presented in chronological order by age. Mark suggested each description include: Date of construction; original owner; architectural style or style name; size of house; general character; distinguishing features of exterior (such as windows, building material, entryway, roof); anything notable about later owners, and a few distinctive features of the inside that have been preserved. Each award certificate will be presented to owners after that home's description. *Lois said she could present the certificates.* Mark's introduction and all house presentation information will be together in one Powerpoint, so *persons doing house presentations should send photos, etc., to Mark by Friday, May 11.* After Mark's closing remarks, *Peter Scholl will take a photo of the group before people disperse for the reception.* For the reception, *Mark will bring red and white wine, napkins, cups and small paper plates, and Kris will bring a tablecloth, centerpiece and fruit. Kris will order a cheese tray.* Adrienne asked Mark to also formally thank owners during his introduction for their efforts to maintain these homes.
- b. Other progress.** Mark contacted David Anderson's son, Per, and asked about David's papers, but it may be a while before Per decides to sort and/or share them. In response to a notice Mark put on the Historic Places of Winneshiek County Facebook page, one woman said the home at 629 Center St. is an Altfillisch design. *Hayley may have one of her student workers check the archives for information about it.* Another possible CA design is the Sacquitne home at 408 5th Ave. Diane reported Ranae Gipp invited her to their CA home at 212 High St. to pick up a magazine article about it. Kris urged members to talk to Reed, Loma or Rick Carlson about their knowledge of CA homes. *Diane volunteered to talk to Rick Carlson.*

5. Decorah Commercial Historic District follow-up.

- a. **Signage.** Judy reported she emailed Iowa Prison Industries customer service representative Sara S., who said IPI can produce a sign with the “bump” shape on top. Sara will estimate the price of 2-sided signs for our streets, and let us know if we can put a logo or words in the “bump.” *Judy will pass on information to commissioners.*
- b. **Downtown tours or other educational/publicity events.** Kris suggested Friday morning of NordicFest weekend as a time for downtown tours. *Mark will ask Elizabeth Lorentzen before anyone contacts NordicFest coordinators. Mark will also talk to Marty Weis about the possibility of using historic preservation tax rebates for work Marty is considering on his home on Broadway.*

6. Luther College Historic District update. Mark reported the project is moving along. The committee is still seeking consultants and soon hopes to know how the project will be funded.

7. DHPC Municipal website revision. All of Mark’s content is now on the website. Adrienne suggested some photos of downtown be added to historic pictures at the bottom of the home page. *Mark will do that, and will add links to organizational websites such as WCHS and DGA, and also a link to the Broadway-Phelps Park brochure, if possible.* He invited other input.

8. Commissioner Reports. Judy reported she attended the Visioning meeting and put in a plug for signage at the entrances to town that mentioned Decorah’s two historic districts. A follow-up meeting will be held Friday, May 18, time and place to be announced. Mark reminded commissioners of the WCHPC all-day preservation workshop for certified local group members. Cost is \$15, participants limited to 40. Sign up early with Elizabeth Lorentzen.

9. Public Comment. Janelle invited anyone to take her place at a Planning & Zoning learning session tomorrow (April 10) at Hotel Winneshiek at 5 p.m., since she can no longer attend.

10. Possible upcoming meetings: Monday, May 14, 2018; Monday June 11, 2018. Commissioners decided to next meet Monday, May 14, presumably at 4:30 p.m. in City Hall.

11. Adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 5:28 p.m.