

Decorah Historical Preservation Commission
June 11, 2018 Meeting Minutes (FINAL)

1. Roll call. Meeting was convened at 4:30 p.m. by Chair Mark Muggli. Commissioners present were Adrienne Coffeen, Lois Humpal, Hayley Jackson, Diane Scholl and Judy van der Linden. Janelle Pavlovec, a Decorah resident, was also present.

2. Review and approval of Minutes from May 14, 2018, recorded and distributed by Commission secretary Judy van der Linden. Mark moved and Lois seconded approval of the minutes as written. Members voted to approve.

3. DHPC Membership. Ryan Engelman has not yet applied for the vacancy on the commission. *Mark will check with Ryan to see if he is still interested.*

4. Charles Altfillisch project update.

- a. **Review Charles Altfillisch homes Historic Preservation award.** Members agreed that the award ceremony on May 17 went well and provided more visibility for our project and greater public awareness of Altfillisch.
- b. **Luther College acquisition of CA family papers.** After the award ceremony, Mark met with Susie Tone Pierce to ask if CA's collection of papers could now go to Luther College. Susie and her brothers have agreed. Hayley has inventoried the collection, which comprises two and one-half linear feet of material. She is awaiting final signatures. The gift will be announced at some point. Judy reported David Wright learned that Roger Olson's home will soon be sold by his son and daughter-in-law, Erik Olson and Ruth Ann Hjelle. Several commissioners volunteered to drive to Rushford with Mark to inventory Roger Olson's papers before the house sells at the end of July. *Judy will let David know that we are interested, and will ask him to contact Ruth Ann about an appointment for commissioners to see the papers.*
- c. **Longterm goals and ongoing tasks for Commission members.** Mark urged commissioners to follow-up on as many properties on our spreadsheet as possible. We want to confirm that each building was designed by Altfillisch or his firm and learn as much about each as we can.

5. Luther College Historic District update. Mark reported that about 18 researchers and others are working on the intensive site inventory of Luther College, and that he believes it is going well. *Judy will resend the list of Altfillisch items that WCHS has in its collection.*

6. Decorah Commercial Historic District follow-up.

- a. **Signage.** Mark reported DHPC still has \$250 from the Depot available for signs. Chad Bird does not want us to use our budget money for signs, but said some hotel-motel tax money might be available. Mark recently asked for and received \$770 from Viking Bank for signage. Judy sent Kevin Nelson of the city street department an image of the "bump" sign we liked and a map of where signs would be placed. Kevin will get back to her and *Judy will let commissioners know what he thinks.*

- b. Downtown tours or other educational/publicity events.** Mark reminded members that we hope to conduct tours sometime after Nordic Fest. He noted that at some point we should redo the city's architectural tour brochure. He said the recent workshop for CLG's was not as well attended as hoped, but otherwise went well. He also pointed out that Decorah's historic downtown is featured in the new area Visitor's Guide.

7. Broadway-Phelps Park amendment update. DHPC again is tabling this agenda item. Mark has stopped work for now on the library and St. Ben's additions research. Judy will help inventory current buildings in the district when work on the amendment resumes.

8. Airport hangar.

- a. Airport Open House, June 13, 5-7 p.m.** Interested commissioners will meet at 5:30 to tour the airport hangar with Chad. *Mark will let Chad know.*
- b. Site inventory.** DHPC will help Chad with a site inventory of the hangar.

9. DHPC Municipal website revision. A new person was hired to replace Lisa, the employee who updated the city website. *Mark will take items into Chad and Wanda that we want added to the DHPC web page, including the latest award article and past downtown building articles.*

10. Continuing education opportunities.

- a. FORUM conference, Des Moines, July 18-22.** Judy and Mark will attend.
- b. Other.** Mark urged commissioners to seek opportunities and report on educational tours or other activities that relate to DHPC's purpose. Hayley described an online tool called "HistoryPin!" that we might be able to use. *Hayley will send members a link to it.*

11. Commissioner Reports. There were none.

12. Public Comment. Janelle said the DHPC award ceremony on May 17 was well presented and interesting.

13. Possible upcoming meeting: Monday, July 9, 4:30 pm. Commissioners agreed to meet at that time.

14. Adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 5:43 p.m.