

March 2, 2023

The HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION met in the Bell Building Upstairs Conference Room at 215 “D” Street. Chair Follett called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Historic Preservation meetings are recorded live. To view the full video, go to <https://livestream.com/lewiston> and select City Events/Miscellaneous Events.

I. CALL TO ORDER

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Greg Follett, Chair; Dennis Ohrtman; Leah Boots; Laurinda Riggs; Lisa Hasenoehrl; Kayleigh Philippi

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED: Ed King, Vice Chair; Peggy Heuskinveld;

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Katie Hollingshead, Assistant Planner; Aaron Butler, IT;

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON PRESENT: None

GUESTS: None

Staff Hollingshead welcomed new Commissioner Kayleigh Philippi to the Commission.

II. CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 2, 2023 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Commissioners Ohrtman and Boots moved and seconded, respectively, to approve the February 2, 202 Regular meeting minutes. The motion passed 6-0.

2. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 9, 2023 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Commissioners Hasenoehrl and Boots moved and seconded, respectively, to approve the January 9, 2023 regular meeting minutes. The motion passed 6-0.

3. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 13, 2023 SUBCOMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Commissioners Boots and Ohrtman moved and seconded, respectively, to approve the February 13, 2023 Subcommittee Special meeting minutes. The motion passed 6-0.

4. CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS, WEST END HISTORIC DISTRICT. AN APPLICATION BY JOEL COHEN ON HELAF OF ASHER MARTIN RE, LLC AT 524 MAIN STREET FOR NEW EXTERIOR FAÇADE ABOVE EXISTING WINDOWS:

Staff Hollingshead reviewed the application for the Commission and stated that this application was a change of the façade from a Certificate of Appropriateness that the Commission had approved originally. Staff reviewed that the proposed wood façade would be an extension of the wood used on the adjoining apartment entrance that the Commission had reviewed in February.

Applicant Joel Cohen introduced himself. Commissioner Boots asked if there had been transom windows still present on the building and, if so, were those windows being covered up by the proposed wood façade. Mr. Cohen stated there were not any transom windows present when they pulled the existing façade off, it was already a wood material that had been painted.

Chair Follett walked the Commission through the Design Guidelines review sheet for the project. The Commission found that the project complied with Design Guideline D-2 and that all other guidelines were not applicable to this portion of the project. Commissioner Ohrtman moved that the Certificate of Appropriateness for 524 Main Street, wood exterior façade above existing windows be approved, Commissioner Riggs provided the second. Motion passed 6-0.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

1. PLAQUES PROJECT SUB-COMMITTEE:

Staff asked Commissioner Boots to give an update on where she was with the narratives. Commissioners Boots stated that she had completed the remaining ten (10) plaque narratives and had sent them to Mr. Steven Branting for him to review for accuracy, and once he has sent them back they can be approved by the Commission. Commissioner Boots provided an example of what she was envisioning for the information that would be provided on the QR code. Staff showed one of the QR webpages and what it would potentially look like with the photos and additional narratives.

Commissioner Ohrtman expressed his thanks to Commissioner Boots for picking up the project and seeing it to completion and the great job she has done on the narratives. The Commission discussed the possibility of scheduling a special meeting to approve the remaining plaque narratives once they have been received back from Mr. Branting.

2. COUNTY COURTHOUSE:

Staff Hollingshead stated that Ged Randall had sent an email regarding a story in the Lewiston Morning Tribune regarding the new Courthouse building and encouraging the Historic Preservation Commission to demand changes be made. Staff reminded the Commission that they had sent the Board of County Commissioners a letter in June and no response had been received. Staff stated that she had forwarded the letter to the Mayor in December when the City and Council had held a joint meeting regarding the Courthouse, but again, no response had been received. The Commission discussed if there were any avenues they could pursue to find out if any plans had been made for any of the items that the Commission had specifically called out in the letter. Staff Hollingshead said she could reach out to the General Contractor in charge of the project and see if they had any information.

V. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hasenoehrl asked about the City Council work session on Monday, March 6 and the presentation about the Bollinger Building. Staff stated that it was just a presentation and that since the Commission had previously asked for updates on the work that the Anne Bollinger Group was doing, that this would be a good opportunity to get that information.

Commission Boots asked if there was a directory of available office spaces on the 2nd floors of buildings in the downtown area. Staff Hollingshead stated that she didn't think one currently existed but that she did know that the Business Improvement District Advisory Board and Beautiful Downtown Lewiston were working on developing an online listing like that as part of their 2023 work plans.

Commissioner Riggs stated that she was working on doing some research on what other city's are doing in regards to incentives for preservation of historic buildings and would bring information back to the Commission once she had it all compiled. Commissioner Riggs also asked if the Commission should consider planning for a speaker at the library during the month of May since the Mayor would be issuing the proclamation for Historic Preservation Month.

VI. STAFF-COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS:

Staff Hollingshead stated that there would be one (1) Certificate of Appropriateness on the April agenda and asked for a show of hands for Commissioners to attend the meeting. All Commissioners present planned to attend. Commissioner Ohrtman stated he would not be able to attend the May meeting.

Staff Hollingshead said that if the narratives were received back quickly from Mr. Branting that she would send out a poll for a special meeting so that the Commission could review and approve and the plaques could be ordered. Staff Hollingshead reminded the Commission that per their request, the Mayor would be issuing a proclamation at the first City Council meeting in May for Historic Preservation Month and that as many Commissioners as possible should attend the meeting in support. City Council will be meeting on the 2nd Monday of May. Commissioner Ohrtman asked if he could send a letter to be read either during Citizen Comments or as part of the proclamation itself and staff said that would be fine and she could either read it at Citizen's Comments or ask if the Mayor would let the letter be read prior to the proclamation.

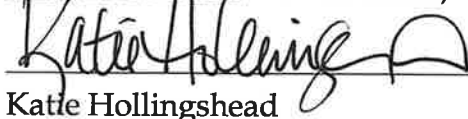
Commissioner Boots asked what was going to be planned to celebrate the completion of the plaques project and Staff Hollingshead stated that the Commission needed to decide what they wanted to do for that. Staff had planned a press release and could possibly invite the media to the May meeting and do an unveiling of the plaques that would be installed on the Bell Building and Old City Hall. Commissioner Ohrtman stated that Commissioner Riggs idea of having a presentation could be tied to the plaques projects. The Commission discussed different days or times and the availability of the library or the museum and the possibility of having Garry Bush or Steven Branting speak to the project. Commissioner Ohrtman also mentioned tying this into the week long celebration that the library would be holding in June to celebrate the 10th anniversary at the current location. Staff will reach out to the Library Director.

Commissioner Hasenoehrl left the meeting at 11:02 am.

VII. ADJOURN

There being no further business, Chair Follett asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioners Ohrtman and Philippi moved and seconded, respectively to adjourn the meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission at approximately 11:03 a.m. Motion passed 5-0.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



Katie Hollingshead

Recording Secretary



Chairperson or Acting Chairperson

Historic Preservation Commission

Approved this 6th day of April, 2023.