



MINUTES

September 4, 2024

6:00 p.m.

Hybrid – Council Chambers

Approved: October 2, 2024

Call to Order

Chair Robinson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Members present: Camron Settlemier, Mason Cox, Cathy Winterrowd, Bill Ryals, Richard Engeman, Chad Robinson, Rayne Legras

Members absent: None

Approval of Minutes

6:01 p.m.

Motion: Commissioner Winterrowd moved to approve the minutes from August 7, 2024, as presented. Commissioner Ryals seconded the motion which passed 7-0.

Business from the Public

6:01 p.m.

None.

Scheduled Business

6:02 p.m.

Public Hearing Type III-Quasi-Judicial Process

File HI-16-24: Historic Review of Exterior Alterations to replace the second-floor porch guardrail with a more compatible design at 218 3rd Avenue SE.

Chair Robinson opened the hearing at 6:02 p.m.

Commission Declarations

No members declared a conflict of interest or ex-parte contact.

Commissioners Cox, Legras, Engeman and Settlemier reported site visits.

No members abstained from participation.

There were no challenges to participants in these proceedings.

Alyssa Schrems read the hearing procedures.

Staff Report

Project Planner Alyssa Schrems presented the staff report sharing slides* of the proposed application.

Applicant Testimony

The applicant's representative, Laura Laroque, gave a brief overview of the project and was available for questions. In response to a question from Commissioner Engeman, Laroque noted that there would be no removal of historic materials with the proposed exterior alterations.

Public Testimony

None.

Staff Response/Procedural Questions

None.

Chair Robinson closed the public hearing at 6:09 p.m.

Commission Deliberations

None.

Motion: Commissioner Winterrowd moved to approve the exterior alteration including conditions of approval as noted in the staff report for application planning file no. HI 16-24. This motion is based on the findings and conclusions in support of the application made by the Landmarks Commission during deliberations on this matter. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ryals, which passed 6-1 with Commissioner Settlemier voting against.

Grant Review

6:12 p.m.

Schrems began by detailing the amount of funding available to the grants. Just under \$2000 was previously awarded to the Cumberland Church for further window restoration. She then described the other applications under consideration.

Members used the Grant Review Criteria and assigned point values to each. Chair Robinson suggested a review of each project prior to discussing potential award amounts. Individual scores were discussed along with the merits of the applications.

Commissioner Robinson abstained from the discussion of the 6th Avenue application because he knew the homeowner.

Motion: Commission Ryals moved to award the 406 6th Avenue SW application \$2485. Commissioner Settlemier seconded the motion which passed 6-0. With Commissioner Robinson recusing himself.

Motion: Commissioner Winterrowd moved to award the 934 Maple Street SW application \$5515 partially covering their ask for the French drain. Commissioner Ryals seconded the motion which passed 7-0.

Letter to Department of Energy (DOE)

6:45 p.m.

Chair Robinson referred to the letter received from the Department of Energy regarding the environmental assessment required for demolition of DOE National Energy Technology Laboratory. The Commission doesn't have purview over the decision for demolition. The city has submitted a letter in response. Commissioner Settlemier had composed a proposed letter as well which he shared with the other members.

Commissioner Settlemier provided some historical background on the building. Commissioner Robinson shared his view that the building created a lot of industry in Albany. Commissioner Ryals asked about the legal ramifications. Commissioner Settlemier responded that DOE did ask for public input as part of the review process, but it is ultimately a federal decision.

Winterrowd mentioned the historical importance of the building and noted a lack of detail to any potential mitigation. Commissioner Winterrowd requested that the response letter should include a request for archeological monitoring and offered to compose an additional paragraph in recognition of monitoring if a decision is made to demolish. Everyone agreed.

Bernadette Niederer with Friends of Historic Albany (via Zoom) provided comment. She suggested that there should be a request for a full National Register Nomination as part of the mitigation.

Commissioner Robinson summarized that the letter should include a request for the nomination and include a passage for formal archeology monitoring for inadvertent discovery process if they proceed with demolition. If that is the case the DOE should collaborate with the Albany Museum do retain any recoverable artifacts for display.

Schrems recapped that the Commission is in favor of restoration not destruction and advised looking at options for slow rehab. If the decision is demolition, then do x, y, or z along with archeological monitoring. Schrems added that Commissioners Settlemier and Winterrowd would work together to finalize the Commission's response.

Motion: Commissioner Ryals motioned to move forward with the letter as discussed and Commissioner Legras seconded the motion. All voted in favor 7-0.

Business from the Commission

7:15 p.m.

Commissioner Winterrowd noted that the historic review process went smoothly partly due to the completeness of the applications and suggested application submittal requirements could be updated. Schrems replied that it could be addressed in the Article 7 updates.

Business from Staff

7:20 p.m.

The November Landmarks Commission meeting will be moved to Thursday, November 7, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. She also reminded members on the CLG Appreciation event on Sept. 26, 2024.

Schrems also noted that the Certified Local Government (CLG) Annual meeting/workshop is coming up and will be held in Dallas. She will let members know the details.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for October 2, 2024, in the Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Hearing no further business Chair Robinson adjourned the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Signature on file

Susan Muniz
Recorder

Reviewed by,

Signature on file

David Martineau
Planning Manager

**Documents discussed at the meeting that are not in the agenda packet are archived in the record. The documents are available by emailing cdaa@albanyoregon.gov.*