HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes for May 15, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers, Municipal Building
911 N. 7th Avenue, Pocatello, ID

The meeting began at 5:57 P.M.

AGENDA ITEM #1: ROLL CALL
EXCUSED: Stephanie Christelow.
STAFF: Councilwoman Leeuwrik, Melanie Gygli, and Terri Neu.

AGENDA ITEM #2: DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND EX-PARTE CONTACT
Disclose who was talked to, the basic substance of the conversation, and whether the conversation had any influence. Disclose if there is anything personally or professionally that would not allow an impartial or unbiased decision. Disclose if a site visit was done, location(s) of the visit, and what was seen.

Strength stated he is good friends with Les Lott, who is part of the company, and has had business ties in the past with the Company for Agenda Item 4B. The remaining Commission members had nothing to report.

AGENDA ITEM #3: APPROVAL OF MINUTES
The Commission may wish to approve the minutes from the April 27, 2019 Historic Preservation Conference.

It was Motioned, Seconded, and Carried (MSC) (J. Alvord, W. Strength) to approve the minutes as written from the HP Conference on April 27, 2019.

AGENDA ITEM #4: CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

A. Michael Snyder, owner of Cottonwood Junction, has submitted an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness for an annual outdoor urban art exhibit on the rear of the Woolworth Building at 141 N. Main Street.

Heidi Urbeck representing Cottonwood Junction, 473 Kurtwood Drive would like to host their first outdoor urban art event. It will be on the alley-side of the Cottonwood Junction. This will coincide with the First Friday Art Walk in August. This will be similar to Freak Alley in Boise. The artist will turn in a mock-up of the artwork to be done. It must be family-friendly and they hope to have 10-12 artists. Urbeck answered questions from the Commission.

Michael Snyder, owner of the building, will personally monitor what is painted. He will not allow anything offensive.

Urbeck stated guidelines would be established and followed. If approved immediately, Urbeck would promote the project and obtain artists.
Neu asked that staff recommendations are included in the Certificate of Appropriateness: 1) the property owner is responsible for content. The content shall not be gang-related, abusive, hate speech, and shall be inclusive. 2) Protruding sharp objects are prohibited.

It was MSC (J. Alvord, L. Herzog) to approve the request by Michael Snyder of the Woolworth Building at 141 N. Main Street for the annual outdoor urban art exhibit on the rear of the building as presented, with staff recommendations, and to have Chair Nielson sign the Certificate of Appropriateness.

B. Nathan Palmer of Racine Olson Attorney, representing Gypsy Holdings, LLC, has submitted an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness to allow backlighting on the “Tatu” sign at 247 E. Center Street, the Shanghai Café.

Nicki Johnson, with Blaze Sign & Graphic Design, 7175 S. 5 Avenue stated that when they submitted the application previously it was for a face change only. She was caught off guard by the questions from the Commission regarding how long it had gone unlit. She has been unable to find where there is a 90-day limit for the grandfathering of the backlighting.

Herzog responded that internally illuminated signs are not allowed in the Downtown Historic District. The Sign Code states that if the business has not been in the location for more than 180 days, it loses its grandfathering. (15.20.290 – non-conforming signs)

Johnson stated that there has been a situation where a sign had not been illuminated for years was approved to be backlit in 2017.

Herzog stated that they are trying to be consistent and trying to follow the guidelines that have been put into place for several years.

Johnson asked why the Commission would not want it lit. Herzog stated that the Commission is trying to follow the period of significance. During that time, things were lit externally and not internally.

Kyle Grigsby, Racine Olsen 2664 E. Red Cedar Lane Apt 301, Boise stated he is representing the client. The item for consideration is the historic character of the sign. The 1992 Sign Survey states that the sign is internally illuminated and had been for 50 years. Grigsby spoke with the owner, who stated that there is no other way for the sign to be illuminated. The Commission can use the fact that it was originally backlit. The sign is from 1938 and is historic.

Herzog explained the approval for the Carpet Plus sign, which is a current business and internally illuminated. Grigsby asked if the owners were able to find evidence of how their Café sign was illuminated in 1938, if the Commission would decide to approve the backlighting.

Herzog mentioned the Key Bank sign, which is internally illuminated, but has blackout vinyl. Stenersen clarified that the background is opaque with only the letters showing when it is backlit.

It was MSC (L. Herzog, W. Strength) to approve the request by Gypsy Holdings LLC to allow backlighting on the “Tatu” sign at 247 E. Center Street, with the condition of an opaque black background with only the letters cutout to glow at night and to have Chair Nielson sign the Certificate of Appropriateness.
AGENDA ITEM #5: BRADY CHAPEL OPEN HOUSE
The Commission may wish to discuss the open house at the Brady Chapel on Memorial Day, May 27.

Friday cleaning - 3 p.m. until finished - Latecia, Terri and possibly William

Saturday working - Herzog 11-4, Alvord 1-4, Milder 11-1, and Strength 12-2

Alvord stated she emailed Marjanna Hulet about the scout troop distributing the blocks. Alvord received six Veteran headstones for placement this summer.

Stenersen would make a poster reflecting this.

Alvord noted that three stones were paid for and donations are needed to pay for the remaining three stones. There is a possibility to be 11 stones total, and each stone costs $209.

With no other business, it was MSC (L. Herzog, J. Alvord) to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 P.M.

Submitted by: Aceline McCulla, Secretary

Approved on: July 17, 2019