

**MINUTES
CITY OF ST. CHARLES IL
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2011
COUNCIL COMMITTEE ROOM**

Members Present: Chairman Smunt, Norris, Prestidge, Pretz, Weals, and Withey

Members Absent: Bobowiec

Also Present: Russell Colby, Planning Division Manager
Sara Cass, Recording Secretary

1. Call to order.

Chairman Smunt called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

2. Approval of agenda.

Chairman Smunt recommended adding 7a, 7b & 7c to the agenda.

The agenda was approved as amended.

3. Presentation of minutes of the September 21, 2011 meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Pretz and seconded by Mr. Withey with a unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes as presented.

4. COA: 22 N. 4th St. (sign)

Mr. Colby introduced Mr. Rodney Jandt who was in attendance to answer any questions the Commission might have regarding the approval of this sign. Mr. Jandt stated that the sign will be constructed of black steel and have 4 x 4 black steel posts with footers according to City code. He also stated the letters are 6" and the globe featured on the sign is 10". Mr. Jandt stated they went with black as the dominant color in this sign to match the wrought iron on the railings of the building. Mr. Prestidge asked if the sign would be illuminated and Mr. Jandt replied that it would not be. Chairman Smunt asked what the intended height of the sign is and Mr. Jandt replied that it is 48" and the length from post to post is 80".

Discussion took place as to whether or not an additional business could be added to the sign if necessary.

A motion was made by Mr. Norris and seconded by Ms. Weals, with a unanimous vote to approve the COA as presented.

5. Discussion: List of Structures needing Façade Improvement.

The Commission came to an agreement that there is no reason to have the building at 218 Riverside Avenue on the improvement list. Chairman Smunt stated a new name needed to be assigned to the list – Mr. Pretz suggested the "façade improvement needy" list.

Chairman Smunt stated that the Downtown Partnership scheduled a walkabout on the west side of St. Charles with Public Works (Rich Gallas & Peter Suhr) in which all “problem” properties were flagged – whether public or private – and a database containing these findings is maintained by Public Works.

Additional discussion took place regarding other properties on the list including the Marberry Cleaners and Johnson Core Fitness buildings. Mr. Colby mentioned that he had received a façade grant request for the metal work at 201 W. Main St.

The Commission agreed, at Ms. Weals suggestion, to also add 11 S. 2nd Avenue to the “needy” list.

6. Announcements: Historic Preservation Commission meeting Wednesday, October 19, 2011 at 7 p.m. in the Committee Room.

7. Additional Business.

7a State Historic Preservation Conference

Mr. Colby informed the Commission that the conference is on Thursday and Friday, October 27-28. He stated that there is money to fund this conference for whoever would like to attend. Discussion took place as to who might be interested in attending. Mr. Colby stated he would e-mail the members to confirm actual interest.

7b Sign ordinance discussion

Chairman Smunt explained that in the sign ordinance, there is nothing to prohibit a property or business owner to post signage on the inside of their windows. Chairman Smunt stated that this is the time to amend the ordinance before something unfavorable occurs. Mr. Colby stated he will look further into this and see what the City can actually enforce.

7c Southeast corner of North 2nd Avenue & Park – 416 N. 2nd Ave. – old City Hospital

Chairman Smunt pointed out that the porch has been enclosed and the door was changed out. To his knowledge, this was all done without a permit. Mr. Colby stated that he is sure a building permit was not issued for this and he would go out and take pictures.

8. Adjournment.

A motion was made by Mr. Prestidge and seconded by Mr. Withey, with a unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting.

With nothing further to be discussed, the meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Smunt, Chairman
Historic Preservation Commission

/skc