



Historic Preservation Commission Minutes

March 11, 2025 — 3:30 PM

City – County Complex, Community Room

Meeting called to order by Vice Chair Jack Luther at 3:30 pm

1. ROLL CALL- (0:15 mins in video)

In Attendance- Commissioners Jack Luther; Kristin Vanderland, Lindie Gibson; Eli Isaly. Staff- Jennifer Severson, Planning Director

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - NONE – February 11, 2025 Minutes will be approved at the next regularly scheduled HPC meeting.

3. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT – (0:47 mins)- none

4. A. DESIGN REVIEW – CACTUS BLOSSOM COLLECTIVE – PAINTED SIGN (111 W. CALLENDER STREET) – (1:08 mins.). Severson stated very straightforward proposal. Vanderland asked question about photo in packet; Severson confirmed they are proposing Black letters (flat black paint). Dimensions from application restated. Gibson motioned to approve; second by Vanderland. Motion to approve signage as proposed passed 4-0.

5. OLD BUSINESS – (3:25 mins) – Luther asked about status of commercial district surveys. Severson confirmed the City is a CLG community and will receive federal pass-thru funds again this year (FY25-26), but grant award amount is not yet known (typically between \$6-8,000). Once grant amount has been determined, Severson would like to discuss ideas about how to use funds with HPC board. Initially, Severson wanted to consider requesting extension of FY24-25 grant of \$6000 to 'roll over' and combine with FY25-26 funds to be able to do more with funds. One idea is to create Historic Preservation Plan since Livingston does not currently have one and mentioned ideas for what may be included. This would allow for a roadmap on how to use future CLG pass through grant funds. Gibson asked if funding expires; Severson confirmed funding can be combined with following year if grant extension is requested.

City was awarded non-competitive \$18,000 grant from SHPO last year specifically to conduct commercial building surveys within downtown historic district; after those funds were used on surveys, city now has almost a full square block plus a few others (3rd to Fainting Goat building along Park; North Side of Callender St, 2nd to alley b/t Main and B Street; Park to Callender along both sides of Main; and Elks Lodge- all are now surveyed). Almost 2 contiguous blocks of surveys have been completed. 217 W Park Street still needs to be surveyed. Gibson asked about how historic district boundaries were created; Severson stated all historic districts in Livingston (other than recently

registered Sacajawea/ Miles Park district) were created based on 1979 historic survey.

Severson mentioned that it may be time to revise downtown historic district map to remove buildings that may have been altered and no longer historically significant along the outer edges, and add buildings that may not have qualified at time of 1979 survey but may now. Downtown Historic District has a large number of historically significant commercial buildings even though not all have been surveyed; all buildings in the district are on the national register by way of being within the designated historic district. Gibson asked about how district boundaries were created and wondered if other buildings need to be added to existing districts or possibly even a new district created. Severson stated that not all buildings in a district need to be historically significant, but collectively the buildings and what they represent culturally to Livingston's history, are important enough to designate as a historic district. But just because a building is old enough to be on register and well maintained, it may not be significant enough to qualify to be on the register.

Luther said it's likely the boundaries of the downtown historic district were likely drawn based on historic buildings and their collective importance to Livingston's history. Vanderland asked if redrawing downtown historic district boundaries could be included in Historic Preservation Plan if one was created; Severson confirmed yes, but she does not anticipate expansion would be feasible- not enough staff resources to expand the district and increase the numbers of design reviews that would be needed. The remapping could be done internally with current GIS staff but evaluations of buildings and outreach for planning for the future would need to be outsourced- could use pass thru funds for that project.

6. BOARD COMMENTS - (25:10 mins) Isaly asked what happened to the old 'Wok' sign; it was approved by HPC to be repurposed for the Engine Room Pizza (where the Wok used to be located), but it may not have been installed yet. Gibson asked if signs for businesses that are no longer there are allowed to remain; Severson said there is a time limit but in the past we have allowed 'iconic' signs to remain as-is (i.e. The Sport); same situation for The Stockman. Removing old signs are the responsibility of the new tenant/ owner- not the City or the old business. If someone reports a sign violation in downtown historic district, staff will look into it, but City staff does not self-report violators b/c not enough staff resources.

7. ADJOURN - 4:03 pm