

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

CITY OF DAVENPORT, IOWA

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025; 5:00 PM

CITY HALL | 226 WEST 4TH STREET | COUNCIL CHAMBERS

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Hustedde called the meeting to order.

Present: McGivern, Hustedde, Gomez, Adams, Eaton, Kretz

Absent: Hoff

Staff Present: Berkley, Werderitch

II. Secretary's Report

1. Consideration of the December 10, 2024 meeting minutes.

Motion by Gomez, second by Kretz, to approve the December 10, 2024 meeting minutes. Minutes were unanimously approved by voice vote (6-0).

III. Communications

IV. Old Business

1. Case COA24-20: Request for exterior alteration at 418 West 7th Street. The Paul and Mina Jannssen House is located within the Hamburg Local Landmark Historic District. Matthew Bevirt, petitioner. [Ward 3]

Staff provided a summary of the Certificate of Appropriateness Application and action taken at the December 10, 2024 Historic Preservation Commission meeting. The applicant submitted supplemental information for review and a request to re-examine the original Marvin Elevate Sliding French door design.

Staff notified the Commission that the property owner completed the project without an approved building permit, inspection, or Certificate of Appropriateness. The completed work was brought to staff's attention on January 2, 2025.

Staff informed the Commission to review the Certificate of Appropriateness based upon the merits of the request. The City's director of community and economic development department is responsible for the enforcement of the provisions of the Davenport Municipal Code.

Staff's recommendation remains unchanged from the December 10, 2024 meeting.

Staff cannot technically recommend approval of the proposed sliding glass doors on the north elevation. However, the proposed alterations to the rear facade will have a

minimal impact on the characteristics of the historic district. Therefore, greater consideration is merited by the Commission.

The project was reviewed for conformance with the Standards for Review, Chapter 14.01.060 C of the Davenport Municipal Code. The rear sliding glass doors do not meet the following standard:

1. New additions and related new construction shall not be discouraged when such improvements do not destroy historic material and such design is compatible with the size, massing, scale, color, materials and character of the property, neighborhood and district, if applicable.

Matthew Bevirt, petitioner, was in attendance to answer questions and advocate for the project.

Commissioners discussed the appropriateness of the sliding French doors and compatibility with the scale and character of the Queen Anne home. Commissioners debated the merits of the project and its location on the rear of the structure. There was additional discussion regarding process and procedures.

Motion by Eaton, second by Kretz, to approve the remaining project components in Case COA24-20 as submitted. The motion to approve the project as presented failed by a roll call vote (2-4). Therefore, the Certificate of Appropriateness was denied for the following items:

1. Removal of the first-floor kitchen door and window.
2. Installation of a Marvin Elevate Sliding French Door.

V. New Business

1. Case COA25-01: Request to install new signage at 106 East 3rd Street. Hotel Mississippi is a locally listed historic landmark within the Davenport Commercial Historic District. Quad City Custom Signs, petitioner. [Ward 3]

Staff presented an overview of the request. The applicant submitted a sign package to rebrand the marquee banner along East 3rd Street. The proposed font, style, and wording will replicate the existing 'Mississippi Lofts' design. New channel letters will be mounted in the same locations as the existing sign and will be internally illuminated. The applicant is also proposing to mount a face lit logo at the top of the marquee.

Staff made a recommendation to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for replacement dimensional letters at 106 East 3rd Street. Staff cannot technically recommend approval of the proposed projecting logo feature. Since Davenport's Historic Preservation Ordinance does not provide an applicable review standard for signage, greater consideration is merited by the Commission.

The project was reviewed for conformance with the Standards for Review, Chapter 14.01.060.C of the Davenport Municipal Code. The replacement dimensional letters meet the following standard:

1. Every reasonable effort shall be made to make the minimal number of changes necessary to maintain a designated property in a good state of repair, thereby minimizing the impact of the proposed alteration.

Rob Lillicrap, Quad City Custom Signs, was in attendance to answer questions and speak on behalf of the property owner.

Commissioners discussed the proposed sign alterations. Commissioners were generally in favor of the design and addition of the logo at the top of the marquee.

Motion by McGivern, second by Adams, to approve Case COA25-01 in accordance with the submitted materials. Motion to approve passed by a roll call vote (6-0).

2. 2024 Certified Local Government Annual Report

Werderitch presented the 2024 Certified Local Government Annual Report and highlights from the past year. The Commission reviewed the previous year's work plan. Commissioners will review and provide further comments for the February 11, 2025 meeting.

No formal action taken.

VI. Other Business

1. Nomination of Chairperson

After discussion, the Commission nominated Michael Hustedde for the position of Chairperson.

2. Nomination of Vice-Chairperson

The Commission nominated Chris Kretz for the position of Vice-Chairperson.

VII. Open Forum for Comment

A member of the public, Tim Huey, spoke to the Commission regarding the proposed reconstruction of the 13th Street Bridge in the Village of East Davenport Historic District.

VIII. Adjourn

Motion by Gomez, second by Adams, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed by a voice vote (6-0). The meeting adjourned at 6:01pm.

IX. Next Commission Meeting: February 11, 2025