

**Heritage Preservation Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday, May 21, 2018**

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**1. Call to Order**

Nordmeyer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the First Floor Public Meeting Room, City Hall, 208 NW First Avenue, Faribault, Minnesota.

**Members Present:** Lyn Rein, Peggy Keilen, Roni Deschamp, Julie Schiffer, Karl Vohs,

**Members Absent:** Lee Nordmeyer and Ron Dwyer

**Staff Present:** Kim Clausen, Community Development Coordinator

**Others Present:** Dave Hammer

**2. Minutes**

A. Regular HPC Meeting – April 16, 2018

A motion was made by Rein and seconded by Vohs to approve the April 16, 2018 regular meeting minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. General Heritage Preservation Items**

A. **Citizen Comment Period**

Dave Hammer spoke about his families deep roots in Faribault and read a statement on the history and significance of Johnston Hall. He wants to help redevelop Johnston Hall and is optimistic about its future.

**4. Design Reviews**

A. None.

**5. Items of Discussion**

A. Mural Policy

Commissioners again discussed the Mural Policy and the potential impacts to the historic district if they make this change. Vohs is concerned about the upkeep requirements of murals. They are require maintenance over time and are likely more work than just a blank wall. Staff noted the Mural and Public Art Policy specifically requires ongoing maintenance provisions. In addition, murals on brick walls must be mounted to the wall, not painted directly on the surface. This will make maintenance easier, as it can be removed when needed. Vohs was also concerned about the content of murals, especially if they face Central Avenue. He doesn't feel modern or abstract art would be appropriate. Staff noted the City Council Joint Committee will review and approve the murals, but only ensure the displays are not profane or vulgar. Regulating content becomes a free speech issue. Staff also noted that many historic downtowns are recognizing the importance of creativity and looking to the future, as opposed to always looking back at the past, in order to attract new residents and visitors. Several commissioners were excited about the possibility of creative artwork downtown.

Vohs proposed a friendly amendment to the policy, where item 5.e. would be include the language, "A mural may require more maintenance than an existing blank wall." The amendment passed unanimously.

Vohs proposed a friendly amendment to the policy that would amend 5d.ii. to read, "Murals shall not be placed on any surface that directly faces Central Avenue, including the sides of corner buildings." The amendment failed, with Vohs voting for it and Lyn, Deschamp, Schiffer and Keilen voting against it.

A motion was made by Rein and seconded by Schiffer to recommend approval of the new Mural Policy, as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Project Updates

Staff provided updates on various projects, including Johnston Hall, local arts initiatives, the former Faribault Furniture Factory and the completion of 206 Central Avenue. Vohs would like staff to work with Dan Hoisington to finalize the downtown National Register District, even if it means removing some buildings. Vohs would also like to see if another open house could be scheduled for 206 Central Avenue for bankers, realtors and other local leaders. Staff will try to arrange this with the property owners, however, they have at least one unit rented for June 1.

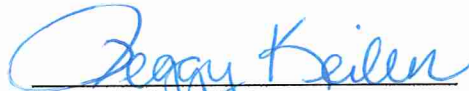
6. Adjourn

A motion was made by Rein and seconded by Schiffer to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kim Clausen  
Kim Clausen  
Community Development Coordinator



Peggy Keilen  
Peggy Keilen, Chairperson