

Michael Gehr, chair, called the meeting to order at 4:50 p.m. on Thursday, October 23, 2014, in the Conference Room, Fourth Floor, City Hall. A roster of the members of the commission and the technical posts they fill are on file and available upon request. Also present were commission members L. Allen, V. Felmet, S. Silas, and M. Wertman. S. Bockmiller, Development Planner/Zoning Administrator, and D. Calhoun, Secretary, were present on behalf of the Planning and Code Administration Division.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 10, 2014

MOTION: (Felmet/Wertman) Mr. Chairman, I move the minutes for July 10, 2014, be accepted as presented.
DISCUSSION: None.
ACTION: APPROVED (Unanimous)

CONSENT AGENDA

None.

DESIGN REVIEW

None.

WORKSHOP

38-40 East North Avenue – Bob Jones – Front Mansard Roof Replacement.

Mr. Jones was not present. Commission discussed replacement materials so Mr. Bockmiller could give Mr. Jones guidance. Presumably, Mr. Jones would like to replace the slate on the mansard roof in the front. Mr. Gehr stated that Mr. Jones should investigate the recycled car tire faux slate. The area proposed to be replaced is not large. Mr. Gehr noted that this product looks very close to slate and it usually has a 50-70 year warranty. The commission would like the sides of the dormers and roofs of the dormers to match the roof. If there is a pattern, the slate pattern needs to be replicated if possible.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Bockmiller stated that staff is processing a package of text amendments which will go to a public review meeting in December 2014 or January 2015. One item that was added to the

amendments package would expand the number of HDC members that could be non-city residents. Currently the only members who do not live in the city are the ex-officio members. This amendment would allow two of the seven voting members to live outside city limits. There is no prohibition in state law that members must live inside the city limits. Mr. Gehr suggested allowing members who work downtown but live outside the city. Mr. Bockmiller said he would check to see if that was discussed. The City could look for more specific connections to downtown, such as in employment.

OLD BUSINESS

Cemetery Advisory Board – Add Three Additional Sites to Inventory Map.

Mr. Bockmiller informed the commission that since the adoption of the map as part of the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance several years ago, staff has learned of three additional cemetery sites that were not known at the time the map was approved. Staff would like to obtain endorsements from the commission to add the following sites to the inventory map:

- St. John’s Lutheran Church – St. John’s has a columbarium on its property in a garden area behind the sanctuary.
- Bellevue Asylum Cemetery – The Almshouse, located at what is now Western Maryland Hospital, from 1888 to the 1950s, had a cemetery. It also was moved to Rose Hill. Mr. Bockmiller will be meeting with someone in the next couple of weeks who was involved in the cemetery relocation in the 1950s and will show Mr. Bockmiller where “on the ground” the cemetery was located so it can be plotted on the map. Staff asked that the commission authorize this site, pending his pinpointing its exact location and extent on the property.
- Asbury Chapel Cemetery – This site is located on the east side of North Prospect Street, north of West Bethel Street. It appears on the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps and Mr. Bockmiller has located deeds referring to it as a cemetery. It was sold by the church in 1911 to Walter Harmon and houses were built on the site. Presumably the remains were moved. Most local cemeteries were moved to Rose Hill Cemetery on South Potomac Street. Staff at Rose Hill indicated to Mr. Bockmiller that they were not familiar with this, but they are checking into it for the City.

Mr. Bockmiller provided copies of documentation at the meeting (see meeting file).

MOTION: (Wertman/Felmet) Mr. Chairman, I move to approve the three found cemeteries on the map of cemeteries of Hagerstown.

DISCUSSION: None.

ACTION: APPROVED (Unanimous)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ms. Felmet announced that this will be her last meeting. She is moving back to Texas. Commission members wished her the best of luck and thanked her for her service. Ms. Felmet requested a letter of recommendation because she would like to work in historic districts in Fort Worth.

Mr. Gehr requested that a special election for a vice chair be added to the next agenda.

ADJOURN

It was moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn (approximately 5:00 p.m.).

2/12/2015

Approved



Debra C. Calhoun – Secretary