

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
ST. ALBANS CITY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
6:00 PM TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2023
ST. ALBANS CITY HALL, 100 NORTH MAIN STREET

Approved June 27, 2023

Commission Members Present: Laz Scangas, Chair; Richard Stahl; Joe Luneau; Lisa Evans (via Zoom); KarenMarie Peltier (via Zoom); LisaMarie Charlesworth (via Zoom).

Commission Members Absent: Barbara Weinstein.

City Staff Present: Chip Sawyer, Director of Planning & Development; Angela Bernard, Minute Taker.

Members of the Public Present: Chad Spooner.

1. Begin Recording and Open Meeting - **L. Scangas opened the meeting at 6:01 PM.**

- a. Introduction of attendees – introductions were made.
- b. Public Comment on issues not on agenda – none.
- c. Discuss additions or deletions to agenda – L. Scangas expressed an interest in tabling section 2, parts b & c, until a later meeting when B. Weinstein can attend.

2. Discuss ongoing project ideas.

a. Lake Street French-Canadian Neighborhood District –

L. Scangas introduced the proposed French-Canadian Neighborhood District and members of the Commission reviewed a map of the area, indicating borders of the proposed area. L. Scangas explained that the specific borders of the area were suggested by Lyssa Papazian, a consultant the city has worked with in the past to determine historic districts.

L. Scangas introduced a packet of information with descriptions of the buildings included in the proposed new district, as well as pictures of each building. L. Scangas suggested that the Commission break up into smaller teams and then each team could go out in the district and take pictures, make notes of any structures that have changed. He proposed having the information documented and ready to go in September 2023, when it can then be submitted as part of an application to the state.

J. Luneau asked about a structure on North Elm Street that should be included but is not. C. Sawyer said any buildings that are close to the border but not included could be added at a later date.

K. Peltier noted that she won't be back in Vermont until April. L. Scangas said that's fine, as long as the information and pictures are gathered by the fall.

K. Peltier suggested the City do community outreach ahead of time by putting flyers or letters in neighborhood mailboxes to give residents a heads up and set minds at ease. L. Charlesworth agreed. L. Scangas suggested an article in the *Messenger*.

L. Scangas said that he was informed that the St. Albans Museum owns a map that includes all of the properties, as well as the historic names of the owners of each piece of property. L. Evans said they haven't had any luck locating the map yet.

L. Scangas said he and C. Sawyer will send Commission members more information, including which section of the proposed district they are asked to survey, at a later date via email.

b. Historic Home Award – tabled until a later date.

c. Historic Façade Award - tabled until a later date.

3. Approval of Minutes – **J. Luneau made a motion to approve the minutes from January 2023, as presented. Second by R. Stahl. Minutes approved at 6:17 PM. K. Peltier abstained.**

4. Other business – K. Peltier asked if any members of the Commission have ever worked on a historic paint color palette that included approved paint colors for property owners. L. Scangas said the City should not enforce colors. K. Peltier said that in her role on the DAB the Board has expressed a desire to have a set list of colors that are allowed for the City. L. Scangas said most municipalities don't enforce paint color choices. C. Spooner said the town of Manchester, VT has a list of approved paint colors. L. Charlesworth asked if the DAB could suggest a range of colors for property owners, as opposed to specific color names. K. Peltier said that's what they currently do as a board. J. Luneau and L. Scangas both said that the Board can't dictate taste in regard to color.

5. Review next meeting date/time – Tuesday, June 6, 2023, at 6PM.

6. Adjourn.

L. Scanges adjourned the meeting at 6:29 PM.