CITY CLERK

## MINUTES ST. JOSEPH LANDMARK COMMISSION WORK SESSION

2018 MAY -7 AM 9: 39

Tuesday April 3, 2018, 6:00 PM 1100 Frederick Ave., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room, City Hall St. Joseph, Missouri

Office	Name	Attendance	Terms of
Office	(mtgs attended-mtgs absent)		
MEMBERS PRESENT:	Marci Bennett	(36-11)	06/25/18
	Roger Martin	(24-05)	06/25/18
	Isobel McGowan	(45-02)	06/25/18
	Lisa Rock	(36-00)	09/25/20
	Pat Squires	(29-07)	10/27/20
	Cole Woodbury	(13-00)	10/10/19
MEMBERS ABSENT:	Ron Auxier	(20-13)	01/25/19
	Ted Hauser	(30-08)	02/22/19
	Nigh Johnson	(31-07)	08/04/20

**Staff Present:** 

Scott Des Planques, Historic Preservation Planner

Lauren Manning, Recording Secretary

Call to Order: 6:08 PM

- 1. **ROLL CALL:** Auxier- Absent, Bennett- Here, Hauser-Absent, Johnson-Absent, Martin-Here, McGowan-Here, Squires- Here, Rock- Here, and Woodbury-Here. Six (6) Members present, quorum present.
- 2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**: Squires moved to approve the agenda. Woodbury seconded. VOTE: Bennett- aye, Martin- aye, McGowan- aye, Squires- aye, Rock- aye, and Woodbury- aye. Six (6) Ayes; Zero (0) Nos, Motion Passes.

## 3. ADDRESS FROM THE CHAIR:

Vacancy Tax: McGowan reported that at the last few meetings the Landmark Commission had brought up the vacant housing problem in St. Joseph. In researching other communities ways of combating vacancy, she discovered the concept of imposing extra taxes and penalties on vacant land and boarded buildings. Multiple case studies were mentioned in the article "Can Extra Taxes on Vacant Land Cure City Blight?" March 07, 2017 By Elaine S. Povich

i. Bennett wanted to try and put together a list of how many vacant structures exist in St. Joseph. It was mentioned in the article that Pittsburgh had 10,000 vacant structures; it would be beneficial to have a comparative number for St. Joseph.

## 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- a. March 6<sup>th</sup> LC Work Session Meeting Minutes
  - i. Manning will edit some attendance corrections.

Woodbury motioned to approve the work session minutes, Rock seconded.

- 5. VOTE: Bennett- abstained, Martin- aye, McGowan- aye, Squires- aye, Rock- aye, and Woodbury- aye. Five (5) Ayes; Zero (0) Nos, One (1) abstained. Motion Passes.
- 6. OLD BUSINESS
  - a. Discuss Public Awareness and Outreach. McGowan, Woodbury, and Rock report on enhancing public awareness and outreach.
    - i. Did not meet.
  - b. Discuss Mid-June Work Session with new Mayor and City Council.
    - i. Waiting until after the new Mayor and Councilmembers are sworn in.
    - ii. Woodbury emphasized that he would like to see the new council to look to the LC as a resource.
    - iii. Bennett suggested meeting with the new mayor and discussing the best way to get together.
    - iv. Squires suggested bringing parts of the city code to the meeting that states what the LC is responsible for.
    - v. McGowan and Squires will put together an outline of what they want to bring to the June meeting.
  - c. McGowan report on letter with recommendation to City Council with ideas regarding incentives to utilize vacant structures.
    - McGowan drafted a letter and passed it out to everyone. Martin had
      questions as to what were city vs. county duties on taxes. Bennett
      suggested speaking with the Community Alliance to see if there was
      existing legislation about vacant property taxes.
       Martin made a motion to table discussion until everyone had a chance to
      read over the letter. Squires seconded.

VOTE: Bennett- aye, Martin- aye, McGowan- aye, Squires- aye, Rock- aye, and Woodbury- aye. Six (6) Ayes; Zero (0) Nos, Motion Passes.

- d. Squires report on letter regarding Humboldt school to send to the SJSD.
  - i. He had more research to do before he finished.
  - ii. Squires moved to table discussion about the letter; Martin seconded.

VOTE: Bennett- aye, Martin- aye, McGowan- aye, Squires- aye, Rock- aye, and Woodbury- aye. Six (6) Ayes; Zero (0) Nos, Motion Passes.

e. Martin report on Columbia, MO Historic Materials Salvage Program.

- i. Martin provided the email and information regarding Columbia's Salvage Program.
- ii. Rock mentioned talking about Nic Hutchison's project in St. Louis. McGowan suggested inviting him to the next work session.
- f. McGowan letter to City Council, Buchanan County and Press stating LC recommendation of support for a Land Bank.
  - i. Manning will distribute the letter.
- g. Rock report on follow up with the Buchanan County's Recorder of Deeds to see what the next steps are to get Chapter 31, Sec 179 Certificates of Appropriateness as well as LC design guidelines recorded.
  - Rock spoke with Gary Winters who said that the Design Guidelines need to be recorded with the Recorder of Deeds and it would take care of that. Rock would check to see who had authority as a representative to record the guidelines.
- h. Commissioner's recommendations for next month's agenda items.
  - i. Rock brought up the Most Endangered List and other suggested alerting everyone what the list is
  - ii. McGowan also brought up that the rectory houses near the Immaculate Conception. Des Planques suggested calling Property Maintenance
- 7. PUBLIC COMMENT
- 8. ADJOURNMENT
  - a. Martin moved to adjourn. 7:01 pm.