

MINUTES  
ST. JOSEPH LANDMARK COMMISSION

*The St. Joseph Landmark Commission is charged to protect, preserve, and perpetuate the historic properties of our city.*

Tuesday, March 1, 2022, 5:30 pm  
First Floor Conference Room  
City Hall  
1100 Frederick Ave.  
St. Joseph, MO

Members Present

<u>Name</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Terms of Office</u>
Jim Dierberger	(17-1)	09/29/23
Greg Hall	(41-05)	06/25/24
Isobel McGowan	(10-01)	10/27/23
Gracia Pinzino	(17-02)	08/10/23
John Rodgers	(13-05)	02/22/25
Trevor Tutt	(07-02)	06/25/24
Marshall White	(08-01)	06/25/24

Members Absent:

Carole Cline	(01-01)	01/25/25
Alec Jennings	(08-04)	10/21/22

Staff Present:

Kimberly Schutte, Historic Preservation Planner

**1. Call to Order:** 5:30 pm.

**2. Roll Call:**

Cline- absent, Dierberger – present, Hall-present, Jennings – absent, McGowan – present, Pinzino – present, Rodgers – present, Tutt – present, White -- present.  
Seven (7) Members present.

CITY CLERK  
2022 MAR -1- AM 5:22

### **3. Approval of Minutes**

A. Feb. 1, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

Hall moved, Rodgers second.

Voice vote – unanimous

Motion Passes

### **4. Postponements/Adjustments to the Agenda**

McGowan asked to move item 9.A (Commissioner Comments) to the top of the agenda. Dierberger moved, Pinzino second.

Voice vote – unanimous

Motion Passes

### **5. Commissioner Comments**

McGowan spoke about the recent fire at 819 N. 9<sup>th</sup> St. and the need to become more proactive and aggressive in preventing the fires and working to deal with the problematic vacant structures in the historic neighborhoods. McGowan then opened the floor to public comments stating that she would compile the suggestions made into a letter to city officials.

Lisa Rock, 2306 Sacramento, spoke about the challenge of getting a suspicious fire designated as arson.

Mary Kottenstette, 208 N. 19<sup>th</sup> St., spoke about the need to change the self-perception of St. Joseph and the importance of holding absentee property owners accountable for the condition of their properties.

Jennifer Baxter Higgs, 424 S. 9<sup>th</sup> St., spoke about the need for more aggressive code enforcement and creating a time limit for allowing property owners to allow their structures to remain vacant before there is a penalty.

Marci Bennett Hazelrigg, 2032 Lovers Lane, suggested that the city enter into a partnership with Crime Stoppers with a commitment that the police will follow up on reports made to Crime Stoppers.

Leonard Kottenstette, 208 N. 19<sup>th</sup> St., suggested that the penalties for vacant and neglected structures be made much higher.

Lisa Rock, 2306 Sacramento, suggested that property owners be compelled to carry liability insurance on all vacant buildings and that there should be a time limit on when a property owner can pay the fines.

Janet Sourk, 902 Powell, suggested that a reward be offered for information concerning arson cases and that cameras be installed in high-risk neighborhoods.

McGowan then closed the discussion stating that if anyone had further comments they wished included in her letter to city officials they should contact her.

Schutte presented information and answered questions about the proposed Urban Homesteading Ordinance that will receive its second reading on March 7.

**6. New Business**

None

**7. Old Business**

None

**8. 2022 Goals**

A. Create and adopt Design Guidelines for infill housing in historic districts:

Discussion of the draft document provided by Schutte. The need for and nature of photographs to illustrate the concepts was discussed.

B. Improve outreach to Underrepresented Communities:

A plan for outreach will be presented to the Commission at the April meeting.

C. Review 3 of the oldest surveys for accuracy: Schutte provided the Commission with the review document that is underway for Harris Addition.

D. Identify districts for survey: Schutte presented Commissioners with maps of possible districts for discussion. White asked that confirmation of the boundaries be postponed until Schutte could provide the Commissioners with further information about the nature of the structures outside of the suggested boundaries. Discussion concerning the challenges and opportunities that the survey will entail and consensus that Schutte should work to provide information on the structures within the suggested boundaries with the understanding that those boundaries may need to shift as the work continues.

E. Possible Local Landmarks: Schutte provided Commissioners with the background information on the suggested possible Local Landmarks. White moved that the first structure to be pursued for Local Landmark status be Robidoux Row; Pinzino second.

Voice Vote – unanimous

Motion Passes

Schutte will provide Commissioners with the outreach materials for Robidoux Row at the April meeting.

**9. Preservation Information**

A. Dierberger and Pinzino reported on the planning for the Preservation Celebration scheduled for April 30, 2022.

**10. Comments**

A. Commissioner/Staff

White asked about the status of the proposal to replace the windows at City Hall. The Commission instructed Schutte to invite appropriate City Staff to the May meeting to discuss the issue.

McGowan asked that Schutte research steps that have been taken by other communities to combat arson and neglect in historic neighborhoods. Schutte is to provide a report at the April meeting.

B. Public – None

**11. Next meeting, April 5, 2022**

**10. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 7:15p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Kim Schutte  
Historic Preservation Planner