

**City of Merrill
Historic Preservation Committee
Monday, July 30, 2018 at 4:00 P.M.
City Hall Common Council Chambers, 1004 East First Street**

Voting Members Present (5 of 5): Jeremy Thompson, Alderman Dave Sukow, Alderman Paul Russell, Mike Weckwerth and Bea Lebal.

Others Present: City Administrator Dave Johnson, Mayor Derek, Woellner, Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator Darin Pagel, City Attorney Tom Hayden, Alderman Rob Norton, Glen Patterson and City Clerk Bill Heideman.

Call to order

In the absence of a chairperson, City Clerk Heideman called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M. He agreed to serve as chairperson for the meeting.

Public Comment

Mayor Woellner commented that he hopes a Historic Preservation Committee chairperson would be in place in time for the next meeting.

November 10, 2016 meeting minutes

Motion (Sukow/Thompson) to approve the minutes of the November 10th, 2018 meeting. Carried.

Member introductions

Meeting participants introduced themselves.

Review Code of Ordinances Sec. 105-317 (Powers & duties of committee)

Code of Ordinances Section 105-317 was included in the meeting packet.

Mayor Woellner stated that it appears that anyone can make an historic structure nomination. Mike Weckwerth responded that, although anyone can submit a nomination, the property owner still has the right to refuse the nomination.

Mayor Woellner stated that having a building designated as a historic structure could help with obtaining grants. Bea Lebal replied that funding via these types of grants is currently scarce.

Alderman Russell mentioned the Historic Tax Funding Credit program.

Discuss potential nomination of T.B. Scott Mansion as historic structure

Mayor Woellner stated that, in his opinion, the majority of people in Merrill would like to see the T.B. Scott Mansion preserved and maintained. He added that it is a Merrill landmark, and he is supporting this historic designation to “buy time” to prevent potential demolition of the mansion.

City Attorney Hayden cautioned against detailed discussion on this until the property owner is in attendance a meeting to participate in the discussion.

After discussion, it appeared that the majority of committee members would prefer to include the owners in the discussion prior to acting on any nomination.

Motion (Weckwerth/Lebal) to refer the potential nomination to the next meeting, and to invite the owners of the T.B. Scott Mansion to attend that meeting. Carried.

City staff will ensure the owners of the T.B. Scott Mansion (Ascension Good Samaritan Hospital) are invited to the next Historic Preservation Committee meeting.

Adjournment

Motion (Sukow/Woellner) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 4:54 P.M.

Minutes prepared and submitted by:

William N. Heideman CMC, WCMC
City Clerk