



Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Agenda

Monday, April 7, 2025 - 3:00 PM

City Offices (Building 18, Legacy Plaza) - Large Conference Room
403 W 4th St N, Suite 501
Newton, IA 50208

- I. Roll Call
- II. Review of Minutes of Previous Meeting:
 - 1. Review of Minutes of previous meeting 3.3.2025
- III. Items from City staff
- IV. Items from Commissioners
- V. Items from Citizens
- VI. Communications from SHPO, IEDA, Dept. of Cultural Affairs, or any other entity with information relating to historic preservation.
- VII. Adjourn

ADA Compliance: The City of Newton is pleased to provide reasonable accommodations, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, for those individuals or groups who require assistance in being able to participate in the meeting. Please contact the Community Development Department at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting by calling 641-792-6622 to arrange for accommodations to be provided.

Chair: Larry Hurto; **Members:** Rita Reinheimer, Toni Peska, Kelly Bennett, Wes Ranard

Meeting Minutes

NEWTON HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
Community Development/Community Services/Public Works
Large Conference Room
303 West 4th Street North, Suite 501
Newton, IA 50208

Date: March 03, 2025

Time: 3:00 pm

Meeting called to order by: Chair Hurto

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: Hurto, Reinheimer, Bennett

Staff and Others Present: Varsha Borde – City Planner

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Chair Larry Hurto questioned if there was anyone present that may require special assistance in being able to participate in this public meeting. There was no response.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motioned by Bennett; 2nd by Reinheimer. Approved 3-0 VV

CERTIFICATION OF IOWA OPEN MEETINGS LAW

Borde confirms.

ITEMS FROM CITY STAFF

1. Borde mentioned that the SHPO CLG Annual Report was submitted February 19th. Question and discussion regarding the past and current SHPO contact for the HPC.

ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Hurto –Larry's HPC Report Larry's HPC Report – March 3, 2025

Larry's HPC Report - March 3, 2025

1. On February 17, I delivered our Annual Report to the Newton City Council. Council member at-large Randy Ervin responded that we are most knowledgeable re: Newton history and remarked that he really enjoyed his year serving on the Commission.

2. On February 20, a citizen stopped me at Courthouse Mall to inquire if history could be found re: a house within the city limits removed to another location. She told me for whom she was asking and said that this is supposed to have occurred in 1963 or 1964. I asked if the gentleman knew the address involved, and she replied that he did. I suggested they go up to City offices in Bldg. 18 of Legacy Plaza and ask to see the building permits file for that address. I wonder if any information re: the move could be found there. Otherwise, I can only think it would require reading microfilmed newspapers, and it very well might not have been published unless there was some kind of legal notice re: permits.
3. KCCI-TV reported on February 20 that the Des Moines HPC met on the 19th to nominate Grant Elementary School to be preserved for future generations. The school was built in 1885 to honor President Ulysses S. Grant. It served the Drake neighborhood until the 1960s and is now owned by the New Life Center. More than 50 people signed a petition to nominate the school building. <https://www.kcci.com/article/des-moines-grant-elementary-school-historiclandmark-petition/63857922>.
4. On February 25, KCCI reported that an historic barn was being moved 17.3 miles along Highway 1 from Ainsworth in Washington County to the Kalona Historical Society.
5. Sales of "Newton Main Street's Stories from Downtown" continue to go well, I believe. Randy Van Roekel from Radio Station KNIA/KRLS interviewed me about the book on February 17. I was interviewed for the "Out and About with Jamie Grout" podcast on February 21.
6. The Theodore H. Maytag home, 503 W. 12th St. S, is for sale by the owners, Nathan and Emily McConkey. For more information re: this property see L. J. Jordan's story in Jasper County Writers, Inc., Heritage Tour of Jasper County (Newton, IA: News Printing Company, Publishers, 1980), p. 160.

Chair Hurto also shared information regarding a magazine – The Old House.

Reinheimer –

Mentioned that she had found notes regarding a couple of projects the commission had discussed in July 2022. The commission had looked at signage that other towns were doing to identify/mark the historic districts and streets. Reinheimer shared some pictures of signage from other towns. There was discussion on the who has the final say over the sign design (city engineer); and funding for the signs. It was decided by the commissioners present to have further discussions on the above signage at the April meeting.

Bennett – Wondered if it would be a good idea to have a table at **Downtown Dreams** - the Newton Main St. event on April 3rd. It was decided that it would be a good idea to have a HPC table.

ITEMS FROM CITIZENS -

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE AND/OR DEPT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS.

ADJOURNMENT

Motioned by Reinheimer, 2nd by Bennett, Approved 3.0 by VV. 3:26 pm