Evansville Historic Preservation Commission

**Minutes**

**Wednesday, November 18, 2015, 6:30 P.M.**

**Evansville City Hall**

**Present:** Ald. Gene Lewis, Betsy Ahner, Steve Christens, Steve Culbertson, John Decker, and Dan Stephans.

**Absent:**  Matt Koser.

**Also Present:**  Community Development Director Jason Sergeant and Mayor Sandy Decker.

**Call to order.** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Vice-chair Steve Christens.

**Approval of agenda.** Culbertson moved to approve the agenda, as distributed. Ahner seconded. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Approval of minutes.** Ahner moved to waive reading and to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2015 minutes as submitted. Lewis seconded. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Citizen appearances.** None.

**Applications**

**239 W. Liberty Street –** Culbertson moved to approve the application for reconstruction of a side yard fence. Decker seconded. The property is a contributing resource within the Evansville Historic District with AHI Reference #85107 – Gabled Ell.

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Introductions of commissioners.** Commissioners introduced one another for the benefit of our new member.

**Discussion of pending and anticipated commission activities.** The following matters were reviewed: pending revisions to the historic preservation ordinances; status of efforts to inventory all historic resources in the city; potential listing of resources as local landmarks or districts; ongoing restoration of the Duck House at Leonard-Leota Park; potential restoration of the Scout House and rustic outdoor fireplace at Leonard-Leota Park; goals for historic preservation noted in the Smart Growth Comprehensive Plan Update, as recently adopted by the Common Council; and the proposed addition to the Eager Free Public Library. Commissioners reached consensus that any proposal to demolish or move the Italianate residence at 20 S. First Street (contributing resource with AHI Reference #84822 – St. John’s Rectory – 1884 – William Morgan, builder) await further study of the adjacent public/private parking lot and of on-street parking that might be added through the anticipated reconstruction of S. First Street.

**Nomination and election of Chairperson.** Decker moved that Steve Culbertson be nominated and elected by unanimous ballot to the office of chairperson, to fill the unexpired term ending in April 2016. Ahner seconded.

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Expenditure of budgeted 2015 funds.** Ahner moved approval of the following expenditures: $250 for support of the History Hunters program; $200 for mailing expenses to all owners of properties in the historic districts; and $1,000 to the city’s capital fund for restoration of the Boy Scout House at Leonard-Leota Park. Lewis seconded.

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Adjournment.**

Culbertson moved to adjourn. Lewis seconded. Approved by voice vote at 7:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John Decker

Secretary

The minutes of the Evansville Historic Preservation Commission are not official until approved by the Commission.