

FERGUS FALLS HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
February 7, 2024

The Fergus Falls Heritage Preservation Commission met on Wednesday, February 7, 2024, at 12:00 PM in the Council Chamber of City Hall. Members present were Chair Chris Schuelke, Jona Brown, Ben Underwood, Brad Sunde, Lois Josefson, Paul Nelson, and Scott DeMartelaere. Wayne Schuett from the Planning Commission was present. Staff present: Klara Beck and Jill Hanson.

Declare Quorum / Open Meeting:

The meeting was called to order at 12:02 PM.

Welcome New Members

Introductions were done for Paul Nelson and Scott DeMartelaere.

Approval of Minutes

Lois Josefson motioned to approve the minutes from December 6, 2023. Seconded by Brad Sunde. Motion passed.

Election of Officers

Chair Schuelke explained the need to elect a Chair and Vice Chair per City Code. Lois Josefson nominated Jona Brown for Chair and Chris Schuelke nominated Ben Underwood for Vice Chair. Motion and second were made by Scott DeMartelaere and Brade Sunde. Passed unanimously.

Downtown Historic District Study Update

Klara Beck stated the consultants are currently working remotely on writing the study report. Issues with the SHPO portal have caused a delay. Discussion ensued regarding study boundaries and district acceptance by SHPO.

Local Designations

Chair Schuelke discussed past rejections by SHPO and mentioned the need for more detailed local designations. The Prince Honeycutt House's tax default status was also mentioned, with suggestions regarding its future.

Heritage Preservation Month Plans

Chair Schuelke reminded members about Heritage Preservation Month in May and discussed planning activities. Potential speakers and events were mentioned, including Kevin Bartram doing a talk on the Flour Mill project and Ben Underwood having a signing event for his new book.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:44 PM.

Next meeting will be March 6, 2024 at noon.


Chair