

## MINUTES

**TOWN OF NORMAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
11 UPTOWN CIRCLE  
ILLINOIS TERMINAL CONFERENCE ROOM, ROOM 336, (3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR)  
NORMAL, ILLINOIS**

### **REGULAR MEETING**

**November 12, 2019**

**12:30 p.m.**

#### **Members Present**

Nancy Armstrong, Kathy Burgess, Anne Matter, Chris Niebur, Bruce Warloe

#### **Members Absent**

Zak Boerger, Todd Bugg

#### **Others Present**

Taylor Long, Associate Planner; Jason Querciagrossa, Deputy Corporation Counsel; Art Wilkinson, representative for the owners of 605 N School Street; Carol Hermann, 11 Clinton Place; David Knight and James Knightwright, representatives for the owner of 409 Normal Avenue

#### **Call to Order**

Ms. Matter called the meeting to order at 12:28 p.m. noting that there was a quorum of the commission and all applicants or their representative(s) present.

#### **Minutes**

Ms. Armstrong moved to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2019, regular meeting. Mr. Niebur seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

#### **CA-19-05-03: Bone Grant Amendment, 605 N School Street**

Ms. Matter introduced the application for a proposed amendment to Bone Grant BG-19-05-03 awarded to the owners of 605 N School Street for the restoration of two front porches. Mr. Long summarized the staff report and the applicants' reasons for pursuing a revised Bone Grant covering only the costs associated with the restoration of one of the home's front porches (the northern porch). The applicants' representative, Art Wilkinson, spoke in favor of the proposed grant amendment and the quality, restorative work being done at the home by his daughter and son-in-law.

Ms. Burgess moved to amend Bone Grant BG-19-05-03 to cover only the costs associated with the northern porch's restoration in an amount not to exceed \$2,568.75, half the amount originally awarded for both front porches' restoration. Ms. Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

#### **CA-19-11-46: Brick Restoration, 11 Clinton Place**

Ms. Matter introduced the application for the brick restoration project proposed for the rear, integral garage entrance walls at 11 Clinton Place. Mr. Long displayed images of the area in question and summarized the staff report. The applicant, Carol Hermann, further summarized the distressed state of the brick walls and the

water damage being caused by the pitch of the adjoining concrete steps. The commissioners agreed that the brick walls were in serious need of attention.

Ms. Armstrong moved to approve the application for the like-for-like restoration of the integral garage's brick entrance walls at 11 Clinton Place. Mr. Niebur seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

**BG-19-11-14: Brick Restoration, 11 Clinton Place**

Commissioners then discussed the applicant's request for Bone Grant funding of the brick restoration project. Citing that the applicant would not be permanently removing or adversely altering significant architectural elements of the home, the commissioners agreed to approve the grant request. The commissioners reviewed the two estimates submitted by Ms. Hermann. Upon review of the estimates and their identical scopes of work, staff and the commission determined that the grant would be in the amount of \$1,400.00, half the amount of the lower estimate.

Mr. Niebur moved to approve the application for Bone Grant funding of the brick restoration project at 11 Clinton Place in the amount of \$1,400.00. Ms. Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

**CA-19-11-47: Step Restoration, 11 Clinton Place**

Ms. Matter introduced the application for the restoration of the concrete steps and landing on the rear of the home at 11 Clinton Place. The applicant and commissioners discussed the steps' deteriorated state and the impact that their cracking and settling has had on the nearby brick walls of the integral, below-grade garage. Commissioners agreed that both for the sake of the steps themselves and the home's adjacent brick surfaces that the steps should be reconstructed. Ms. Burgess reminded the applicant that any kind of railing proposed for the steps would have to receive additional review and approval from the commission.

Ms. Burgess moved to approve the application for the restoration of the rear, concrete steps at 11 Clinton Place. Ms. Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

**BG-19-11-15: Step Restoration, 11 Clinton Place**

Commissioners then discussed the applicant's request for Bone Grant funding of the step restoration project. Citing that the applicant would not be permanently removing or adversely altering significant architectural elements of the home, the commissioners agreed to approve the grant request. The commissioners reviewed the two estimates submitted by Ms. Hermann. Upon review of the estimates and their identical scopes of work, staff and the commission determined that the grant would be in the amount of \$1,025.00, half the amount of the lower estimate.

Ms. Armstrong moved to approve the application for Bone Grant funding of the step restoration project at 11 Clinton Place in the amount of \$1,025.00. Mr. Niebur seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

**CA-19-11-48: Ramp Construction, 409 Normal Avenue**

Ms. Matter introduced the application for the installation of an accessibility ramp at 409 Normal Avenue. The homeowner's representatives summarized the need for the ramp and the fact that it would not be permanently attached or incorporated into the principle structure in any way. Commissioners agreed that the proposed installation was not detrimental to the historical or architectural integrity of the home due to its impermanent construction. Ms. Burgess added that whenever the ramp was removed, the commission would have to

approve the installation of new handrails back onto the current, non-historic stoop if the present ones were not reinstalled.

Ms. Armstrong moved to approve the application for the construction of a ramp onto the front porch of 409 Normal Avenue. Mr. Niebur seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

**CA-19-11-50: Painted Brick, 305 Gregory Street**

Ms. Matter introduced the application for the retroactive approval for the painting of brick surfaces at 305 Gregory Street. Ms. Burgess, parent of the home's owner, summarized the miscommunication that led to a contractor painting the home's brick features and recused herself from further discussing or voting on the matter. Commissioners expressed no opposition to the brick surfaces having been painted and stated that, had the proper review process been followed, they would have approved such a request. Commissioners and Mr. Long discussed the reasons why the painting of previously unpainted surfaces is cited in the Historic Preservation Code as an activity requiring the commission's review and approval.

Ms. Armstrong moved to approve application retroactively approving the painting of brick surfaces at 305 Gregory Street. Mr. Niebur seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

**Other Business**

None

**Adjournment**

Mr. Niebur moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Armstrong seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Taylor Long  
Associate Planner