MEETING RECORD

NAME OF GROUP: HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING:
Thursday, July 19, 2007, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 206, 2nd Floor, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:
Tim Francis, Bruce Helwig, Jim McKee, Bob Ripley and Carol Walker; (Jerry Berggren and Terry Young absent). Ed Zimmer and Teresa McKinstry of the Planning Department; and other interested citizens.

STATED PURPOSE OF MEETING:
Regular Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

Chair Bob Ripley called the meeting to order and requested a motion approving the minutes for the regular meeting held June 21, 2007. Motion for approval made by Helwig, seconded by Walker. Motion for approval carried 5-0: Francis, Helwig, McKee, Ripley and Walker voting 'yes'; Berggren and Young absent.

The opportunity was given for persons with limited time or with an item not appearing on the agenda to address the Commission. No one appeared.

APPLICATION BY MATTHEW AND LISA INNIS FOR DESIGNATION AS A LANDMARK AND FOR A SPECIAL PERMIT FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION FOR PROPERTY AT 1204 PEACH STREET, THE HEIDENRICH HOUSE/FORMER TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH PARSONAGE

PUBLIC HEARING: July 19, 2007

Members present: Francis, Helwig, McKee, Ripley and Walker; Berggren and Young absent.

Lisa Innis appeared as applicant. She would like to run a small tea room from her house at 1204 Peach St. The structure would not change. She has been restoring the home from the funds made from the tea room. The neighbors seem to love it. She does not believe that parking is an issue. She is the only one home during the day on her block. There is a sign for her business, but she believes it blends with the home.

Ed Zimmer has received communication in support from the Everett Neighborhood Association. Notification letters were mailed to all neighbors within 200 feet of this property. A communication received from an adjacent neighbor is strongly supportive. When the Historic Preservation Commission acts on this, it will go on to the Planning Commission. This is proposed as an owner-occupied operation with limited seating and daytime operating hours.
ACTION: July 19, 2007

McKee moved approval of the landmark designation and the special permit, seconded by Walker. Motion for approval carried 5-0: Francis, Helwig, McKee, Walker and Ripley voting ‘yes’; Berggren and Young absent.

STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS IN VICINITY OF HAYMARKET LANDMARK DISTRICT (URBAN DEVELOPMENT DEPT.)

Hallie Salem from Urban Development appeared. Urban Development would like to do some streetscape improvements on 9th St., 7th and “R” St. and “P” St. The streetscape would be extended north of the Journal Star parking lot. The lights will be slightly further apart with a concrete stamped sidewalk. The landscaping will be pared down to roses and other plant material.

Dennis Scheer stated that the existing roses were effected by a mite infestation and need to be removed.

Salem stated that the landscaping will also be done on the west side of the street along with lighting, sidewalk repair and planting beds.

Zimmer stated that most of the area is not within the boundaries of the Haymarket Landmark District, but within 300 feet of the Haymarket district. He thought it prudent to have the Historic Preservation Commission review the plans.

Scheer presented site plans to the Commissioners for their review and discussion.

Ripley inquired about the width of the narrowest planting bed. Scheer replied that it is four feet wide. The intent on the east side of 9th St. north of the Journal Star, is to extend the aesthetic that exists now. They will continue the planting of Kentucky coffeetrees.

Salem stated that they are working with Fernando Pages on The Option block. The corner of The Option, northeast corner of 7th and “R” will be enlarged. They found a source in Iowa that can send them the same type of brick pavers that exist in the Haymarket now. The center island with the mailboxes will be paved with the brick also. South to the Sinclair Hille building, that corner would be removed and repaved in red brick. Native grasses and perennials would be used.

Ripley would like to see the median extended and returned to green space. He was vehemently against the expanded parking in the first place. He remembers a promise from someone to return the area to greenspace.

Salem will take the issue to the Haymarket Board.
Salem noted that 9th and “P” St. will have minimal improvements. They are proposing some new plantings and replace some irrigation.

Ripley thinks this project looks very good and believes this is the way that the entrance to the city should look.

Helwig questioned the landscaping around The Option. Salem stated that the city has an agreement with The Option for tax increment financing. Zimmer stated that there is a redevelopment agreement in place.

Scheer stated that they hope to be finished before fall and football season. They will keep the Commission informed.

**STAFF REPORT:**

- The countywide historical survey was slowed by the federal budget slowdown. There has been a release of funds. The Historical Society’s contractors will coordinate with the Planning Dept. particularly with the GIS Dept. Mead and Hunt from Michigan has been employed. The state is looking at this for a model of a statewide system.

- Zimmer has a volunteer who has been working on Sheridan Blvd. information.

- Zimmer has been continuing to add information to the historical division of the Planning Dept. website.

- Ripley stated that he attended a conference of the Society of Architectural Historians. It would be nice if there was some blend between Omaha and Lincoln. Centralized information would be nice. Zimmer stated that the State Historical Society takes care of the entire state.

- Zimmer is having a discussion with prospective owner of the Old Federal building. He wouldn’t take possession until after the five years. It has only been about two or three years. He is managing now. He will probably attend the August, 2007 Historic Preservation Commission meeting. He is considering rearranging the first floor of the building.

Ripley wondered about the housing. Zimmer replied that the housing is leased and completely full.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.