MEETING RECORD

NAME OF GROUP: HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING: Thursday, December 17, 2009, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room 106, 1st Floor, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Tim Francis, Jim Johnson, Berwyn Jones, Jim McKee and Greg Munn; (Cathy Beecham and Bob Ripley absent). Ed Zimmer and Teresa McKinstry of the Planning Department; and other interested citizens.

STATED PURPOSE OF MEETING: Regular Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

Vice-Chair Tim Francis called the meeting to order and requested a motion approving the minutes for the regular meeting held November 19, 2009. Motion for approval made by Johnson, seconded by Jones and carried 5-0: Francis, Johnson, Jones, McKee and Munn voting ‘yes’; Beecham and Ripley 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 KIM McKEE ON BEHALF OF ENGINE HOUSE CAFÉ, 6028 HAVELOCK AVENUE, IN THE HAVELOCK AVENUE LANDMARK DISTRICT PUBLIC HEARING: December 17, 2009

Members present: Francis, Johnson, Jones, McKee and Munn: Beecham and Ripley absent.

Ed Zimmer stated that the applicant is asking for a sign with burgundy lettering and white background, similar to the other business sign already on the building.

McKee wondered if Serif lettering would be more in line with a historic building. Zimmer replied the proposed lettering appears to be Helvetica.

McKee believes a sign on the side of the building is justifiable. He would suggest that it be more historic in its font. People do not read capital letters as well as they read lower case. He believes that would be more recognizable.

Francis agreed. It would distinguish the business more.
ACTION:

McKee moved approval with the suggestion that the applicant consider a Serif font and lower case type, and also a dark background with white lettering, seconded by Johnson.

McKee believes a dark background and light letters are more readable.

Zimmer stated that Scott Sullivan’s suggestions on this building were more maintenance issues.

Munn believes light letters on a burgundy background would be better, also. You would just see the word café.

Motion for approval carried 5-0: Francis, Johnson, Jones, McKee and Munn voting ‘yes’; Beecham and Ripley absent.

STAFF REPORT

O. A. Faulkner House (National Register nomination, NE corner, 40th & South Street)

Zimmer stated that during the renovation of this house, a signature was found on the wall in the entry of the old farm house. This is in the east wing. The signature on the entry hall is 1896, 2-3 years before Faulkner bought the house. In 1896, Lincoln is still working its way out of the depression. The previous owner was a farmer named Marvin Cook who died in 1896. The Faulkners purchased it from Cook’s heirs. Louis P. Young, Cook’s son-in-law, is believed to be the builder. He came to Lincoln around 1880. He held multiple occupations. He was the Manager of the University Boarding Hall for Young Women with his wife, Alice. Alice was the daughter of the farmer. Mr. Cook was also the warden of the penitentiary and into real estate loans. The signature is the plasterer, Ed Robison. The association with Faulkner is still strong, even though he apparently did not build the house.

The house hints at symmetry with a tiny corner tower element. There are some interior Faulkner changes. All those things tend to point towards Woods and Roberts. The nomination won’t be done for the January, 2010 meeting of the State Historic Preservation Board but he hopes to complete it for the May agenda. He is still researching the details.

Zimmer stated that there has been a positive response from Woodsshire neighborhood to go ahead with a National Register nomination.

MISCELLANEOUS

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.