

Grinnell Historic Preservation Commission

Minutes, Meeting September 16, 2021

Present: Cheryl Neubert, J.R. Paulson, Mary Schuchmann, John Whittaker

Mary and Cheryl attended the Preserve Iowa Summit, and will report to the City. J.R. hopes to 'attend' the online archive and we will discuss what they learned.

Cheryl notes that there is fencing around the old Spaulding factory smokestack, and it seems Hubbell, building owners, intends to take it down. Discussion: National Register of Historic Properties status does not actually protect anything except from Federal actions. So we have no legal recourse, and probably little persuasive force. But Cheryl will ask Russ Behrens about it, and maybe we can express an opinion to the City and Hubbell.

Storefront project in town, no info.

Bike Shop legal suit against City – no info.

Burnt out site of Mexican restaurant – new owners, young couple but re-development turns out to be expensive, progress and prospects unknown.

Candyland Station is now Maria's Fesh Mex, reportedly good food.

Next meeting to be at Periodic Table, Oct 14th.

ADDENDUM from email from C Neubert 9/17:

1. Left a message at DSM office of Hubbell Realty (evidently, no one works on-site) regarding the brick smokestack.

2. Ann Wingerter (City Clerk) filled in information on facade grants (Russ out of office until October 1).

Work on the following buildings is to start next week:

- 803 Fourth (west half of Eagle Building)
- 807 Fourth
- 831 Main (Frontier Cafe)
- 901 Main (Comeback)
- 912-918 Main (former J.C. Penney building)

3. No news on the site of the burned-out Mexican restaurant, according to AnnW

4. Craig Cooper's lawsuit against City is still pending. Ann could make no comment regarding, of course.

I'll let you know when I talk to someone from Hubbell.