

Urbana Historic Preservation Commission Staff Report

June 2, 2021

Marcus Ricci, AICP, Planner II

new information on existing entries in italics

Public Input: none received.

A. Historic Preservation Month:

1. Downtown Historic District Walking Tour Podcast

Podcast is up and running. We did have a local businessowner contact staff to express their disappointment that they were not included in the inaugural podcast. I assured them they would be included in the follow-up, complete district podcast, and would be contacted for an interview. I hope that upcoming intern time will be available to create the second podcast.

2. Historic Preservation Month Proclamation

Mayor Diane Wolfe Marlin recorded the proclamation for this year's Historic Preservation Month onsite, across from the Princess Theater/Cinema Gallery. You can view it on the city's UPTV YouTube Channel. Thanks to the Mayor, Jason Liggett, Bridget Broihan, and Kate Levy.

Both the podcast and the proclamation were shared on the city's social media platforms, neighborhood FaceBook pages, and will be featured on the city's web landing page.

B. Historic Property Activities:

Certificates of Appropriateness – Issued and Not Issued

- 1404 South Lincoln Avenue – Chateau Normand/Pierre Moulin. Rental signboards were removed. The University Group submitted an application for a CoA on April 29, 2021; it will need revised and resubmitted. *May 6, 2021: Marcus emailed property manager and asked for the posts to be removed. He will follow-up with a Zoning Violation Warning. The CoA application has not been resubmitted yet.*
- 502 and 504 West Elm Street – Sutton House and Freeman House. Owner Jonah Weisskopf installed porch railings to meet insurance requirements. On April 28, Jonah submitted that he would apply for Certificates to replace the stair railings (Minor Work) and to install a porch railing on 502 (Major Work). He has sketches that he will submit. *On May 7, Jonah emailed stair and railing designs. Marcus will review them with Alice.*
- 612 West Green Street – Ricker House. Replaced asphalt shingles on roof with like. Minor Work. Staff contacted new owners in November 2020 to submit application for a Certificate of Appropriateness (work done in Summer 2020). *Marcus spoke with owner Dan Newman on May 21 he said he would submit a CoA application by June 2.*

OLD ENTRIES/NO STATUS CHANGE:

- HP-2019-COA-01-B: 2 Buena Vista Court – Andrew Fell: Exterior Plaster Repair. Minor Work; approved by Zoning Administrator and HPC Chair on 1/8/2020. WORK ON HOLD PENDING COMPLETION OF INTERIOR RENOVATIONS.
- HP-2020-COA-02: 4 Buena Vista Court – Janet Mohr: Exterior Stucco Repair. Minor Work; approved by HPC Chair on 5/20/2020 and ZA on 5/21/2020. WORK IN PROGRESS.
- HP-2020-COA-06: 8 Buena Vista Court – Henry Strehlow. Exterior Stucco Repair. Minor Work; approved by HPC Chair and ZA on 11/13/2020. WORK IN PROGRESS.
- 801 West Oregon Street – Chris Enck. *Staff will contact Mr. Enck regarding removing posts. Dumpster appears to be for interior renovations.*
- HP-2019-COA-01-C AND HP-2020-EH-01: 2 Buena Vista Court – Andrew Fell: Exterior Window Replacement. Major Work; Approved with Conditions by HPC on 1/8/2020. WORK COMPLETED, EXCEPT FOR BASEMENT EGRESS WINDOW.
- HP-2020-COA-07: 806 West Main Street – Joan Price. Exterior Window Replacement. Major Work. COA GRANTED 1/6/2021; WORK STATUS UNKNOWN.
- 8 Buena Vista Court – Henry Strehlow. Henry applied for a CoA to repair the porch: remove the non-original access ramp; replace the non-original concrete steps with concrete or wood steps and remove the brick sidewalls; and repair the porch exterior stucco and window screens and install an exterior door. ZA Designee Ricci and Chair Novak have determined that all three activities would be Minor Works. Strehlow will submit detailed information on the door candidates for approval.

Dr. Ellis Subdivision Historic or Neighborhood Conservation District

Staff continue working with residents to explore creating a Historic District (Adrian Wong, Eldress Melinda Carr, Reverend Evelyn Underwood, and Bishop King James Underwood). *Staff provided list of property owners and educational brochures. Regarding the Preference Form: the 2008 Zoning Ordinance required staff to send it to each property owner as part of Public Hearing notice for both Districts and Landmarks. The current Ordinance requires sending the form for Historic District applications, but not for Landmarks. Staff will be discussing the relative options between Historic Districts and Neighborhood Conservation Districts with the residents.*

Urbana Landmark Hotel

Staff have been in contact with Haaris Pervaiz of Icon Hospitality, one of the design and marketing firms working on the hotel project. We look forward to receiving a presentation of proposed work or possibly an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness in the near future.