Evansville Historic Preservation Commission

**Minutes**

**Thursday, July 30, 2015, 6:30 P.M.**

**Evansville City Hall**

**Present:** Rich Modaff, Ald. Gene Lewis, Steve Christens, John Decker, and Matt Koser.

**Absent:** Steve Culbertson, Betsy Ahner.

**Also Present:**  Community Development Director Jason Sergeant, City Administrator Ian Rigg.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Chair Richard Modaff.

**Applications**

**202 S. Fourth Street –** City Administrator Ian Rigg and Community Development Director Jason Sergeant appeared in support of an application to demolish the carriage house at this address to facilitate the construction of a sidewalk along the east side of S. Fourth Street in connection with ongoing utility and street reconstruction work. Koser moved to approve the application. Christens seconded.

The property is within the Evansville Historic District, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and is deemed to be a contributing resource with reference AHI #85031.

Decker objected to the application on the basis that, under the ordinances, only an owner or person in control of the premises has standing to apply for a demolition permit, in this case, Bonnie and Larry Luchsinger. Jason Sergeant is the signatory to the application, rather than either or both of the Luchsingers. Following discussion, Decker further objected that, if the City of Evansville is the party seeking razing of the structure, only the Building Inspector is authorized to request such an order, which would trigger an appeal mechanism in favor of the Luchsingers to the Zoning Board of Appeals, and a requirement under state statutes that the Wisconsin Historical Society be notified and be accorded certain rights.

Commissioners suggested that the Luchsingers sign the existing application as proof that they are, in fact, the applicants for a demolition permit, and that the matter be brought forth again at an early date.

Upon call of the previous question, the motion to approve the application for a demolition permit failed by a voice vote of one in favor and four against.

**Adjournment**

Christens moved to adjourn. Seconded by Koser. Approved by voice vote at 6:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John Decker

Secretary

The minutes of the Evansville Historic Preservation Commission are not official until approved by the Commission.