



Historic Preservation Board Agenda Item

Meeting Date: 11/25/2024
From: Josh White, Principal Planner
Item: Historic District Revisions

Purpose: Discuss amending the boundaries of the Historic District in accordance with the 2017 Survey Report.

Background:

The City was rewarded with a grant in 2017 to conduct a resurvey of our downtown historic district. The survey was conducted and completed in May 2018. The survey made recommendations to modify the historic district by adding some properties and removing others. The report also recommended creating a thematic nomination of Arkansas City's historic churches but that will not be part of this project. This project also directly aligns with the City's Comprehensive Plan goal to "promote the maintenance and preservation of historical resources" as well as its accompanying action item to "Expand the existing historic district to match the recommendations from the 2017 Resurvey of the Downtown Historic District."

Recently the owner of a non-contributing building called me and wanted to know how he could qualify for grants and tax credits. I informed him that his building would have to be considered contributing to the district. I then checked with the SHPO regarding the process of getting that changed as it would likely now qualify as contributing to the district and was told the best way would be to amend the existing nomination and revise the boundaries and update the period of significance for the district using the updated survey data.

Let's discuss what this might look like and review the survey report. If the board would like to pursue this, we can apply for a Historic Preservation Fund grant to hire a consultant to assist with the process.

Action:

Discuss the Survey Report and proposed amendments and make a recommendation to staff.

Attachments:

Survey Report