

Matt Martin

From: Carol Jenkins
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2024 9:12 AM
To: Matt Martin
Subject: FW: Historic Conklin House

Hi Matt, FYI.....

Carol Jenkins
Planning Technician II
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From: Shannon Thorson <shthorson@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2024 9:03 AM
To: Carol Jenkins <cjenkins@ci.sisters.or.us>
Cc: Michael Preedin <michael@preedindesign.com>; Susan Cobb <scobb@ci.sisters.or.us>
Subject: Historic Conklin House

Carol,

I understand there's a meeting this evening to discuss the project in and around the historic Conklin house. Please include this input into that discussion.

I have been actively restoring homes and commercial properties for over 30 years. It causes great concern to hear the Conklin home may be demolished.

Historic restoration is a specialty and often cities allow professionals that don't specialize in this area to render opinions on a building's viability. Structural engineers and building contractors (at large) are absolutely not qualified to discuss the viability of restoration unless they specialize in this arena.

So often cities allow non-specializing professionals to declare a building is not viable when this is absolutely not the case. At times folks who purchase properties are looking for opportunities to remove structures that don't meet their capital plans and seek professionals to justify this. It's critical there are non-biased professional opinions brought in.

The State of Oregon has fantastic resources in regards to historic restoration and there are plenty of professionals that could help cast of clear light on this particular situation.

Based on a simple exterior observation, it appears this building is very much viable and is a relatively simple restoration. The ground under it is stable and the foundation appears functional. The roofline remains straight and the building is generally constructed in a straightforward fashion.

I am hopeful the city of Sisters and planning commission will assemble a team of qualified professionals to very carefully evaluate any demolition requests.

If resources and contacts are needed for state employees and/or non-biased engineers who specialize in this arena I would be more than happy to help.

This same information has also been shared with the project manager through email and phone conversation who indicated he would relay this information to the property owners.

Thank you

Best,

Shannon Thorson
DESIGNER | PROJECT MANAGER

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