

Heritage Preservation Commission
September 10, 2019 Meeting Minutes
City Hall Council Chambers

Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Mike Malone called to order the meeting of the Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 10, 2019.

Attending: Stacey DeRoche, Jessica Fortney, Mike Malone, Mike Poupore, and Sarah Wisdorf

Absent: Ken Buehler

Staff Present: Steven Robertson and Cindy Stafford

Old Business

1. Pastoret Terrace Update – Steven Robertson gives an overview. They city is working on interpretive elements of building and the sign will be saved. There will likely be an litigation update in October. Chair Malone would like an update on where the artifacts will go and what the process is. Per Robertson, the archival study will be completed first.
2. Lincoln Park Improvements Update – Lisa Luokala addresses the commission. The city has submitted the last SHPO consultation in August. They have not received a response yet. This is their fourth submission to SHPO. National Park Service Grant – Cannot begin roof repair before the Section 106 study is completed. Maintenance will try to secure the building for the winter. It will go out to bid in February. Many community members were hoping they would break ground in 2019, but it needs to go through the complete SHPO review steps.

Chair Malone asks how the HPC can help. Luokkala will bring SHPO's response to the HPC meeting in October. A letter of support for mitigation process will be helpful. Poupore would like to see SPHO's response as soon as possible, so they can review it fully. There was an email received from Scott Marek that was discussed. He thinks the grant application contained blatant omissions. Jessica Fortney notes the city is in their fourth submission and the design for the pavilion has been secured. It's out of their hands at this point. Chair Malone invites Marek to attend the HPC meeting. Robertson agrees to send the concerned citizen an email and will copy Adam Fulton or Ben VanTassel. Fortney says there is a consultant on the project now, which will help with the submittals with SPHO. Per Poupore they could contact SHPO and let them know they are eager to hear their response. Stacey DeRoche notes Marek contacted the HPC four years ago. At that time he noted the mini master plan and there is a difference to it. Poupore shares some of his same concerns about the roads and the original change of the park due to its historic nature. Luokkala states it's two-fold: Parks and HPC and hits both angles. The questions are infrastructural as well as historical. It is on Luokkala's radar. Robertson as a parallel the Essential Hospital plan has evolved over time.

Communication and Other Business

- 3a. Public Comments – Park Point Light House, David Woodward gives an overview. This is a continuation of the conversation last Spring. Would like to designate as a historical landmark. He would like to nominate this as a local landmark. Publicly owned properties are encouraged. He introduces his under graduate student who has been working on the Park Point Light House designation. Public parks are also great learning tools for students to put on local landmark status before they are irreparably changed. Tower built in 1858, and part of the tower still exists. It is built where the first survey of Lake Superior was, so it is referred to as zero point. They have a draft application, but not the preservation plan yet. Chair Malone would like to see it on the next agenda if possible. Robertson encourages the student to forward him the application as soon as possible. Poupore asks if the application includes how the site will be secured. Yes, they are working on the preservation plan.
- 3b. Alicia Kolanowski – community relations officer and Judge Floerke address the commission. They give an overview of art with community partners. Art is in the historic downtown district. Identified are two buildings, and they are not contributing. The art hopes to bring new energy to the area, and they are seeking to obtain more public art in Duluth. Judge Floerke had comments about graffiti and who could clean it up. Rather than stopping graffiti why not make them places of beauty and art. The Duluth Art Institute and other artists are on board. Duluth is behind the times when it comes to street art. This is building owner driven. They are looking at small projects at first to kick it off. They would like to bring public art into Duluth. Artists would be invited to come in and paint on buildings: 108 E. Superior St. and 118 E. Superior St., as well as the pillars and retaining wall between 118 E. Superior St. and 108 E. superior St. They are privately owned properties, but they want to mindful of the historic district designation. Poupore notes these are contributing buildings to the historic district. Change in facades could be an issue. Kolanowski asks if removable art would be acceptable. Judge Floerke notes owners would like to welcome the art to their buildings. Fortney notes the porousness of bricks and powerwashing them could deteriorate their condition. Per Judge Floerke. they have a meeting tomorrow to discuss the art. DeRoche asks if the sheeting will be removed? Floerke thinks it has been removed. Ghost signs could help to maintain historic district, and their destruction must be avoided. They were merchant and advertising signs (i.e. coca cola). DeRoche thinks it could possibly be beneficial if they could incorporate the ghost signs into the new art. Chair Malone appreciates them bringing it before the HPC and hopes they have continued communication with the city. Judge Floerke hopes to have an ongoing conversation.
4. Planning Commission Update – Commissioner Sarah Wisdorf gives an overview. Tiny house discussion will be tonight as well as storage containers. They are working through Essentia phases.
5. Consideration of Minutes – July 9, 2019
MOTION/Second: Poupore/Wisdorf approve the minutes

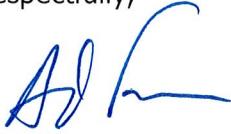
VOTE: (5-0)

6. Review 2019 Work Plan – Chair Malone would like to hear feedback on specific projects on the remaining items. Wisdorf notes the Park Point Lighthouse designation. Joint meeting with SHPO. Chair Malone would like to see meetings with SHPO every year. Fortney notes the conference is this Thursday in St. Cloud. Robertson will be in attendance. Fortney would like to know what is happening with the Depot. They could invite the new director to attend and speak at an HPC meeting. Robertson suggests November or December. Discussion ensued about Board of Trade Building and school administration building. Chair Malone would like to start discussing what they want to accomplish next year. Wisdorf notes the meeting time, and could they get more volunteers if they change their meeting time? Chair Malone invites the HPC members to seek out possible new members. Per Robertson, annual meeting is in November.

Adjournment at 4:23 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting Tuesday, October 8, 2019, but it will be cancelled if no applications are received.

Respectfully,



Adam Fulton – Interim Director
Department of Planning and Economic Development