



City of Duluth
Planning Division

411 West First Street • Room 208 • Duluth, Minnesota 55802-1197
218-730-5580 • Fax: 218-730-5904 • www.duluthmn.gov

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Duluth Historic Preservation Commission
Minutes of November 23, 2010
Room 303, City Hall

I. Call to Order: Chairman Carolyn Sundquist called the meeting in order at 2:00 pm, Tuesday, November 23, 2010, in Room 303.

II. Roll Call

Members Present: Donald Dass, Drew Digby, Wayne Gannaway, Carolyn Sundquist, and David Woodward

Members Excused: Tim Meyer

Members Absent: None

Vacant Member Position: One (St. Louis County Historical Society)

III. Public Hearings

A. 2011 Community Development program recommendations

Keith Hamre, Community Development. Hamre discussed the Block Grant Program and the recommendations for funding amounts. These recommendations include four housing, five economic development, three for public facility improvements, nine for public services, six for home investment partnerships, and four for the emergency solutions program

They are working on a multi-family development in the central hillside area and are in negotiations with the property owners. This would be a home partnership program. They would purchase the property, rehab it and resell. These would be properties that are foreclosed. Comments can be sent to Hamre's office. All properties on this list will be looked at. SHPO has categorical exclusions. We will revisit this in a future meeting.

Sundquist talked about the Sacred Heart situation. It was a very important capital project. It was stated that Duluth has not devoted much funding to these projects. Sacred Heart Music Center was not awarded a grant in the last round of Legacy Fund grants through the Minnesota Historical Society (MHS). Even though matching funds are not required, more than twice as many of the ones that had matching funds were funded than those that didn't have matching funds. Hamre said that CED funds can be used as a match to complete a project and that they can then go back to the Legacy Funds of MHS.

Digby would like to consider a motion on the projects and looks forward to the future for partnerships with these projects. HPC will put this in writing. All Approved. Sundquist requested that they would like to review the Sacred Heart application. Hamre will send it to commission.

C. Downtown historic resources signage project. An intern is working on this.

D. Report and discussion of Preservation activities

1. St. Peters Church. The Catholic diocese has closed the church. It is a significant structure and the church building was the hub of the neighborhood. The historic structure is made of stone. They have merged the congregation and this week are moving the statuary.

2. The AICHO/YWCA Building has been approved for federal and state tax credits. HUD sees this to be a national model project.

3. Armory. The Alexander Company of Madison Wisconsin is the developer. The National Register nomination and part one of the historic tax credits application have been submitted to SHPO.

IV. Consideration of Minutes. MOTION/Second Dass/Gannaway to approve the October 20, 2010 minutes.

V. Communications. Sundquist stated that Mike Koop has sent a copy of the Minnesota CLG Procedure manual and a copy of the Fairbault HPC Annual Report to use as an example. Many communities use the HPC annual report as a marketing piece. Part of the required annual report is a certification that all HPC records are kept by the city and public process has been followed. Duluth has not been able to comply with this requirement for the last several years. Procedures are now in place for compliance for the federal fiscal year beginning October 1, 2010.

VI. Old Business

A. Status Update on the Astor Park Landmark Nomination. The nomination was approved by the City Council.

B. Review UDC Ordinance as pertains to the HPC. No Report.

C. Historic Resources survey for potential CLG grant

Discussion was held on the need to have a current historic resources survey of Duluth's historic properties. The last city wide survey was done in 1984. Woodward and Gannaway volunteered to work with Keith Hamre on a CLG Grant application to fund survey work. A doable geographical area will be identified for the funding available.

Sundquist asked about grant administration and Hamre stated that he and Edna and will work through his department.

D. Skyline Parkway wayfinding project and historic resources survey

Sundquist reported that the contract has been awarded to the selected firm, Visual Communications, and work has begun. For project administration, the planning department has contracted with Kimberly Sannes.

VIII. New Business

Digby stated that we need to get together with the city clerk's office on this to verify the list of landmarked status properties and to be sure that the Clerk's office has recorded them on County Property Records. We need to determine how we can computerize these records and ask questions to develop databases. Building Safety needs to have landmark properties flagged for referral to the HPC for a certificate of appropriateness when owners apply to make changes to their landmarked properties.

X. Adjournment. Chairman Sundquist adjourned the Meeting at 3:28 p.m.

Respectfully,

Carolyn Sundquist *she*
Carolyn Sundquist
Chairman

CS:eu