

Heritage Preservation Commission
January 24, 2017 Meeting Minutes
Council Chambers – Duluth City Hall

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Michael Poupore called to order the meeting of the Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) at 2:10 p.m. on Tuesday, January 24, 2017.

Attending: Laurie Boche, Stacey DeRoche, Terry Guggenbuehl, and Michael Poupore

Absent: Ken Buehler, Mike Malone and David Woodward

Staff Present: Ben VanTassel, Jenn Moses, and Cindy Stafford

Visitors: Joe Litman and Kyle Marynik of LHB, and Taryn Erickson-city project engineer.

II. New Business

A. Welcome to Mike Malone. N/A

B. Skyline Parkway Stone Retaining Wall Project (City Engineering, LHB)

Joe Litman of LHB addresses the commission and shares an overview. Their grant amount allowed for 2 out of 3 projects (Oneota Overlook and Section 3 turnout). The Barton's Peak project is being delayed. Funding requirements include updating the heritage preservation commission on project status.

Oneota Overlook: 330 feet in length and is a mortared stone retaining wall with a concrete cap. Current condition: failed mortar joints and areas of missing stone; concrete cap deterioration; wall failure and loss of pavement. They will repoint, replace and reconstruct where needed. 25% of wall will be completely replaced. This project will use 1/3 of the funds.

Section 3 Turnout: 1100 feet long dry-stacked stone retaining wall, no parapet. There is a poured concrete cap. Current condition includes: areas of missing stones, stone wall bulging outward and unstable at various locations. Preservation work scope: reconstruct as a dry-stack wall, replace concrete cap, rehabilitate existing site monument, and replace missing guard stones. They will use same rock type and same level of quality, and match historic quality. One-third of the 80-year wall will be completely replaced. The project timeline: 30% of the plan has been submitted and comments were received. They plan to have the rest of the plan submitted to SHPO by mid-March. Construction schedule begins when they advertise for bids in April of 2017. Award and construction to begin in Summer of 2017. Chair Poupore asks about the widely-spaced boulders on top of the Section 3 turnout. Will the design comply with MN DOT? Litman states, yes. The design is accepted because of its historic nature and it's not known to be a high-accident area. Chair Poupore confirms there is no intent for metal guard rail. Litman states not at this time. Terry Guggenbuehl asks about the concrete caps. How will they match the concrete? Litman states they will do patching with test panels, adding stain when necessary to match the concrete. They have been in contact with the Skyline Planning and Preservation Alliance (SPPA).

C. Skyline Parkway Nomination: Legal Description – Moses gives a brief history. It's not a platted road. Some portions go through private property with easements and some without easements. The challenge is how to write up a description. There have been internal staff discussions. Should the city hire someone? It was determined to be too

expensive, and may not be necessary. The plan going forward in 2017 is to internally divide the parkway into segments. They will have to research old city council actions and old records. There will be ongoing research in 2017, and they would like volunteers of legal description experts.

- D. SHPO Training – Part I (Chapter 1 and part of Chapter 2 as time allows) – Moses asks the commissioners if they would like to go through the training together. They can identify areas which require clarifying questions and identify pertinent areas. Guggenbuehl states they all have access to the files and can proceed on their own time. Chair Poupore asks the commissioners to make a personal commitment to go through it and come back to next meeting with questions. Stacey DeRoche would also like to set aside time at the next meeting. Moses reiterates the commissioners should chapters 1 and 2 and touch base at next meeting. A historic resource book club so to speak.

III. Old Business

- Legend of Historic Districts shared – 5 east side areas and update website.
- Update – Lincoln Park Survey – Moses states they are working on the grant submittal. They received one proposal which was higher than their grant, at which time they decided to lessen the area. Summit is now under contract. Staff is performing property research. Their timeline/process includes one public meeting, and they will give an overview and updates to the HPC in February. There will be a draft document in March and a wrap-up in April. Chair Poupore asks if it will free up staff time once the survey is complete for other CLG opportunities. Moses states there will be opportunities down the road, maybe not surveys, but nomination research. DeRoche asks what information is this providing and what will it be relevant for. Chair Poupore states it's a historical resource for SHPO. The survey is important to have facts down for future development and planning. Moses refers to it as an encyclopedia of information. The properties within the area will be looked at. How we can potentially use these in the future? It will provide a base level of research for future research. Moses states there could be funding of local projects with federal money. They survey an entire area versus going property by property. CDBG funds have traditionally matched the CLG grants so that the City's match is a combination of money and in-kind services. However, SHPO has recently advised that surveys are not a replacement for historic reviews required by HUD and other agencies, so CDBG funds might not be available for this work in the future. One question for the HPC to discuss is whether these surveys are useful or not, and what can be done to fully utilize these surveys.

IV. Communications and Other Business

- A. Planning Commission Update – Terry Guggenbuehl – N/A (missed last pc meeting); Pastoret Terrace – Van Tassel – putting a plan together for February.
- B. Consideration of Minutes – December 27, 2016
MOTION/Second: Guggenbuehl/Boche approve December 27, 2016 minutes.

VOTE: (4-0)

- C. Correspondence – Tischer Creek Bridges – letter received. Lafayette working according to guidelines.

Comp Plan Update - Vision for future – imagine Duluth 2035. There will be two new governing principles: health and fairness. They are conducting focus group meetings. Look at the website for updates: www.imagineduluth.com

D. Topics for February Meeting

1. Armory Presentation by Mark Poirier
2. Possible Indigenous Commission invitation? – If HPC members are interested in reaching out to the indigenous commission, Moses can help facilitate. Chair Poupore thought David Woodward might be interested.
3. Public Meeting: Lincoln Park Historic Survey
4. SHPO Training – Part II
5. Skyline Parkway Nomination – not ready at this point.

E. Adjournment at 3:06 p.m. (Next Meeting, Tuesday, February 28, 2017)

Respectfully,



Adam Fulton - Manager
Community Planning