

Heritage Preservation Commission  
November 13, 2018 Meeting Minutes  
Council Chambers – Duluth City Hall

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Michael Poupore called to order the meeting of the Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) at 3:04 p.m. on Tuesday, November 13, 2018.

Attending: Ken Buehler, Jessica Fortney, Mike Malone, Michael Poupore, and Zandy Zwiebel

Absent: Stacey DeRoche

Staff Present: Jenn Moses and Cindy Stafford

2. Consideration of Minutes (moved forward in the agenda) –  
October 2, 2018 and October 9, 2018

**MOTION/Second:** Malone/Fortney approve the minutes with edits from Zwiebel which include the statement that the railroad preservation plan does not guarantee exact replacement of the railroad.

**VOTE: (5-0)**

3. Public Hearing

A. **PL 18-146** Historic Construction and Demolition Permit for Generator Enclosure at City Hall, 411 W. 1<sup>st</sup> St. by city of Duluth

**Staff:** Jenn Moses introduces the city's proposal for a back-up generator. Screening was recommended by staff and their design will include shrubs surrounding 3 sides. Mike Malone asks if this was the only option considered.

**Applicant:** Property and Facilities Manager, Erik Birkeland, addresses the commission. This was not their first choice, but it was the less expensive option. Malone asks about the audible impact. Birkeland notes it will run once a week before working hours begin. Ken Buehler asks where the generator is now. Birkeland indicates the location on the map. Buehler confirms this is a back-up generator to the back-up generator. Birkeland states this is a temporary structure. Malone feels comfortable since it is a temporary structure. Zandy Zwiebel confirms it is not located in the front of city hall. Moses notes the location is off of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Moses states this is a public hearing, and will invite feedback shortly. Birkeland states they are open to other screening options. Chair Poupore notes the historic nature of civic center. He thinks (aesthetically speaking) this takes a big chunk out of the historic aspect of it. Jessica Fortney asks about the generator location and the power line placement. Birkeland states the power lines will be buried underground. Zwiebel doesn't think it is obstructing any sort of special view.

**Public:** David Woodward, 205 N. 24<sup>th</sup> Ave. E., addresses the commission. He asks what SHPO (the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office) had to say about it. Moses, since this is local money, it doesn't require a section 106 review.

**Commissioners:** Chair Poupore would like get SHPO's feedback. Moses states a historic/demo permit does not require SHPO to weigh in. Poupore would like to take this to SHPO and table this for now. Buehler asks what the city's timeframe is. Birkeland would like to proceed as soon as possible. Buehler states in the future, he encourages the city to think ahead. Zwiebel would like to see a maintenance plan for the generators.

Malone would appreciate the communication between Chair Poupore and SHPO for this project as well as future projects.

**MOTION/Second:** Poupore would like to table until SHPO weighs in. (Motion fails for lack of second)

**MOTION/Second:** Zwiebel/Buehler approve the construction permit for the generator enclosure at city hall.

**VOTE: (5-0)**

4. Old Business

- A. Lincoln Park Improvements – Parks Manager Will Roche addresses the commission. Lincoln Park is one of the city’s oldest parks. There is a pavilion on the property. In 2017 they received a grant, along with donations. Construction will begin next year. Planned improvements for the pavilion include a new roof and handicap accessible bathrooms. SHPO will be reviewing the project. Chair Poupore asks if the pavilion plan will be shared with SHPO. Manager Roche states that so far under Section 106, the Phase 1 archaeological assessment has been shared. The final details regarding the pavilion will be shared with the HPC and SHPO in the future. He thanks the HPC for their time.
- B. Planning Commission Update (Moved up on the agenda)– Zwiebel noted nothing in particular related to HPC items. (Zwiebel left after this item. 3:44 p.m.)
- C. Update on Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad – 2<sup>nd</sup> reading at city council is tonight.
- D. Update on Pilot Program for Rehabilitation of Historic Homes – No applications yet submitted.

5. Communications and Other Business

- A. Opportunity for Citizens to be Heard – Scott, a student at UMD, addresses the commission. He would like the HPC’s input on the local landmark status application he is filling out for the Minnesota Point lighthouse ruins at the end of Park Point. The spot where it was built is the first site of Lake Superior mapping. It was the first high-powered lighthouse on Lake Superior. It is on the national register and should be deemed a local landmark as well. It is the oldest standing structure in the city. They are racing against time because the structure continues to deteriorate. He encourages the HPC to bring the nomination forward. Fortney asks who the owner is. Scott states the Army Corps of Engineers is the current owner. Fortney asks whether the integrity has changed since 1974. Scott states it is still in the relatively same shape as it was in the 70s. Chair Poupore is in support, and Buehler concurs. Poupore sees ownership confirmation as the only roadblock. Fortney asks about the Preservation plan. Scott states there is potential to preserve site by removing shrubbery around it and potentially adding a new fence and interpretive signs. Chair Poupore asks if the funding will be provided by the Army Corps. Scott states legacy grants could be obtained to fund the project. Moses states there are two ways to bring the nomination forward. Either the HPC or the owner would need to bring forward an application. The application draft will be shared with the HPC for their comment.

**MOTION/Second:** Buehler/Fortney vote to move forward to local designation.

**VOTE: (4-0)**

B. Election of 2019 Officers – President and Vice – Moses gives an overview of the annual meeting process. Only the citizen representatives are eligible for president and vice president roles. Chair Poupore’s eligibility timeframe is now up.

**MOTION:** Poupore nominate Malone as President

**VOTE: (4-0)**

**MOTION:** Poupore nominate Fortney as Vice-President

**VOTE: (4-0)**

6. Adjournment at 4:04 p.m.  
Next Meeting Tuesday, December 11, 2018 – if applications are received.

Respectfully,



---

Adam Fulton - Manager  
Community Planning