

THE DULUTH HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION (DHPC)

Minutes

Duluth City Council Chambers, Third Floor, City Hall

4:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 17, 2008

Members Present: Carolyn Sundquist (Vice-President), Tony Dierckins, Heather Rand, Don Dass, Robert Aho, Lynn Ann Hollatz (Secretary) (Penny Clark and Maryanne Norton, excused)

1. CALL TO ORDER (Vice-President: Carolyn Sundquist) **4:30pm**
2. ROLL CALL
ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA – ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS **agenda accepted as is**
3. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES from May 17, 2008 **Dass motioned to accept the May minutes with no corrections. Second by Aho- all in favor - motion passed**
4. GUEST PRESENTERS

Terry Groshong could not make it to the meeting. DRC will meet with him to discuss the Wheeler Field House Windows and Lakewood Pumping Station fencing.

Joe Litman (LHB Architects) and Pete Eakman (St. Louis County) presented schematics for the 40th Avenue West and Skyline Parkway improvements. This included removal of the WPA wall (1938) along the west side of Haines Road, Realigning 40th Ave. W. (Horseshoe Bend) and removing and rebuilding the supporting wall underneath Haines Road over Merrit Creek on the easterly side of Haines, above Skyline. The commission questioned whether the design of the new supporting wall was designed in the same character of the existing structures in the area. Comments included try to keep it natural. Dark staining of the supporting wall was acceptable. Flat, long, and uniform, symmetrical, was not in keeping with the character of the existing infrastructure. Bob, Don and Carolyn will work on putting together comments. Joe Litman told Lynn Ann to check with Kristen Schzomler about the deadline on the public comment time period. The HPC would like to see the stones be available to the City to use on historic preservation projects. This language can be included in the MOU possibly. (Carolyn and Lynn Ann) Skyline Parkway president, Doug Stevens, who will contact Carolyn, was present and took the drawings and maps. His group was going to go up to the site to consider the proposal. Cari Pederson is the City Engineer who will be setting up a meeting with the engineers next week. Lynn Ann will try to make it to that meeting too.

5. REPORTS OF STAFF, OFFICERS, AND COMMITTEES

- A. Planning Staff- Hollatz
Several letters from the SHPO and the National Preservation Conference Brochure were presented by Lynn Ann.
- B. East End Residential Historical District Survey Phase 2 -Update (Hollatz).
The City has not received any response on the RFPs for the East End Survey that were sent out. Lynn Ann will call some of the companies that received the RFP do determine possible interest.
- C. Duluth Preservation Alliance – (Sundquist) **DPA Park clean-up at Enger Tower was conducted on June 16th.**
- D. Duluth Planning Commission - (Rand) **Nothing significant to report.**
- E. Natl. Trust Report – (Sundquist) **Nothing significant to report**
- F. St. Louis County Historical Society - (Clark) **Nothing new**

6. NEW BUSINESS/OTHER BUSINESS

A. First Presbyterian Church, 300 E 2nd St: – (Sundquist) First Presbyterian Church Landmark Status is acceptable to the congregation board. Sundquist will assist them with filing, Dierkens will assist with historical research.

B. John J. Astor Park - Daughter's of the American Revolution (DAR), Greysolon du Lhut Chapter and Daughters of Liberty Chapter dedicated the park to the city on Monday, June 16 at the park. The new name of the park is "Historic Park". A new sign was unveiled, Mayor Ness, Penny Clark (HPC President), Jerome Blazevik (local resident/historian) Joan, representative of the Fond du Lac Band spoke. The MN Society DAR State Regent, Faye Vork also spoke. Loraaine Campbell, Fond du Lac resident who lives next to the park and takes care of raising the flag received a commendation from the Mayor. Trish Peterson sang God Bless America. DHPC members informally agree that the park's new name is much too generic but no vote was taken to urge a change at this time.

C. Old County Jail - Penny, Carolyn and Lynn Ann met with Tony Mancuso, the St. Louis County Facilities Management Director. He was willing to split out the job of demolishing of the jail with construction of a sally-port to the Courthouse. The thought had been to incorporate components of the old jail into the courthouse and realign Priley Drive. Another meeting needs to be set with Gary Eckenberg and Administrator Mitchell. Heather said that she had been involved with one of the previous jail studies. HPC members asked for copies of the other five studies that Tony M. cited during the meeting. Bob Aho states that the cells inside the jail are likely not essential for the structural integrity of the building as has been assumed. This circumstance has been perceived as a barrier to modification and reuse and needs to be clarified.

D. Discussion of London Road study and meeting (Sundquist) – **Presented to City Council on June 9th.**

E. Other Business.

1. Discussion regarding potential properties for national and local nomination - **Nothing new**
2. Local designation of Astor Park and Crosby House (Norton and Hollatz) - **Nothing new**
3. Design Review Committee (Aho, Dass, with Lynn Ann Holatz) met earlier in the day to consider the latest plans for Old City Hall. Nearly everything the owners wish to do was been approved explicitly or in principle by the committee with the exception of some proposed work that will need detailed drawings (Specifically the front stonework.) Request to owners to conduct full exterior cleaning before matching mortar instead of afterward as presented.
4. Discussion of community redevelopment demolitions issue (Sundquist) – **Nothing new**
- 5 Discussion regarding Minnesota 10 Most Endangered properties nomination - **Jail discussed further**
- 7 Main Street Task Force (Sundquist/Rand/Clark) - **Nothing new**

H. Future Discussions

1. "Heritage Preservation Landmark brass plaques
2. Organization of task force to develop educational materials
3. At the next meeting, some work groups will be put together to get projects done. Tony volunteered to help Lynn Ann with the John Jacob Astor nomination. Don volunteered to look into availability of an intern from one of the local colleges.

7. **ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 6:35pm.**