

City of Duluth **Planning Division**

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Heritage Preservation Commission May 27, 2014 Meeting Minutes Room 303 – Duluth City Hall

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Woodward called to order the meeting of the Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 27, 2014.

Attending: Ken Buehler, Kristi Johnson, Patricia Mullins, Thomas Vaughn and David

Woodward Absent: N/A

Staff present: John Kelley, Charles Froseth and Cindy Stafford

Visitors: BJ Massengill, Douglas Aretz, Rachel Phelps, Steve Frank and Mike

Seymour

11. **Public Hearings**

A. US Fisheries Station at 6008 London Road, material provided by Douglas Aretz for nomination to Duluth Historic Landmark status - Chair Woodward comments on the application and notes items B and D in the findings on Designation criteria and feels Victorian architecture should be stressed. The HPC will be recommending this nomination to the city council. Historic designation allows for adaptive re-use. Mike Seymour of UMD (land owner) is supportive of the reuse of this historic building. The university needs to go through the process and must be approved by their board of regions. Woodward clarifies this body is recommending local landmark status and can't directly designate. Aretz asks about planning commission role. Per Charles Froseth, the planning commission will look at the site in accordance with land use. They will make sure the property is in conformance with the comprehensive plan. Sunset clause is discussed. Per Woodward, SHPO might not be on board. Patricia Mullins asks if SHPO isn't on board can it move forward anyway. Woodward states yes, HPC as the local governing body they have the authority. Aretz asks if tax credit program would be nullified if SHPO isn't on board. Woodward thinks once it is on the list it fulfills the base requirement. Kristi Johnson questions the sunset clause and it could nullify future tax credits. She feels nothing would be gained by the sunset provision.

MOTION/Second: Woodward/Mullins nominate US Fisheries Station for local landmark status to be brought to city council for their consideration.

(VOTE: 5-0)

- A. Update on new members

 Nothing to report. Froseth will follow up.
- B. Legacy Grant Proposal for the Astor Park Phase I Archaeological Survey Woodward is working on the grant proposal. They increased the short term grant amount to \$10,000 previously \$7,000. Deadline is June 19, 2014. Woodward would like to forward it the other commission members to review and then pass on to city staff. He hopes to have it by the end of the week. Another grant Woodward is seeking will be the potential burial mounds at Enger Tower. Woodward asks how to get these grants on the city council agenda. John Kelley will look into it. Woodward asks about small area plans and if historic preservation can be included. Per Froseth, lots of layers are involved and they hope to have help from the intern. Woodward would like the HPC to be involved. Per Kelley, he thinks a member from the HPC could be included in the small area planning steering committee. Tom Vaughn volunteers. Kelley thinks there are about 1-2 meetings a month.

MOTION/Second: Woodward/Mullins nominate Tom Vaughn to be on the Lincoln Park Small area plan steering committee.

(VOTE: 5-0)

IV. Old Business

- A. Update on Carter Hotel Woodward comments on the letter created by Allison Lutterman, city attorney. HPC concurs and would like to help if they can.
- B. Pre-nominations for Other Properties in Duluth Still pending is the Enger Tower designation. Morgan Park is discussed. It may be one of the first indoor shopping malls. Vaughn asks if he can get a copy of the National designation document for Morgan Park. Woodward refers him to Michael Koop at SHPO. Rachel Phelps (UMD student and intern) addresses commission. She shares her project which is to identify properties around Duluth: original fire houses and multi-family brownstones. Woodward would like to have pre-nomination meetings with the owners for June. City would need to send out the meeting notification. Woodward feels the announcement should be general and then more detailed benefits of local landmark status will be addressed at the actual meeting. Woodward suggests Phelps draft a letter and then be shared with city staff to put on letterhead.
- C. Update on Phase V (five) CLG Grant Historic Survey/Inventory. Froseth gives brief overview. He thinks it will be done by June.
- D. Duluth Ethnographic Study / Indigenous Commission action Froseth notes Bruce White will attend.

Brad Massengill- Railroad representative addresses the commission. He notes the significance of the railroad and its historical value and asks for the HPC's assistance. Woodward asks if he would be willing to fill out an landmark status application. Ken Buehler asks about track location. Brad states the 7100 block

behind zoo to Gary-New Duluth. In 1979 Burlington Railroad gave the track to the city. The track ends at Commonwealth Avenue at boyscout landing.

V. <u>Consideration of Minutes</u> – April 22, 2014

MOTION/Second: Mullins/Vaughn approve minutes.

(VOTE: 5-0)

- VI. Communications
- VII. Reports of Officers and Committees

Planning Commission – Mullins notes the lengthy meetings as of late and not much in regards to HPC.

St Louis County Historical Society – Buehler notes the addition of someone from Lake Superior College.

VIII. Other Business

N/A

IX. <u>Adjournment</u>

Meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully,

Charles Froseth, Secretary