



City of Duluth
Planning Division

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Preservation Commission Member
Duluth Historic Preservation Commission
Duluth, MN 55802

Dear Commission Member:

Chair David Woodward called a meeting of the Duluth Historic Preservation Commission for 2:00, Tuesday, May 22, in 2012, in the City Council Chambers.

- I. David Woodward called the meeting to order.
- II. Roll Call: Ken Buehler, Drew Digby, Wayne Gannaway, Steven Robertson, and David Woodward

Excused: Donald Dass, Tim Meyer, Carolyn Sundquist

- III. Public Meetings
- IV. Old Business

- a. UDC revision - Update - Action Plan

Woodward sees this as redundant and a waste of time. Robertson explained that these properties would fall behind until it gets added to the list. They would need to have it updated or it would not be current. Woodward stated that they put it on the list in March and it is accepted but not put on the UDC for 2 years later. That is not an appropriate list. They would need to amend the list as it goes. Digby stated that they would amend the list as it goes on the list. Woodward stated that they are not looking at the UDC and they may go onto an extended period.

Robertson stated that we may be having a slow moving document. He stated that he would like to see a revision on this list and property owners don't need to be involved. In January he had a cease and desist order. This is a slow moving document. Robertson stated that he would work on this.

Woodward stated that with the landmark status, the lawyer had made all the decisions. They had to go back to 2 to 3 sections to find it. They will look at this in May and July and hope to have some language put together.

They are now looking to get the Congdon Mansion.

- b. Local Landmark Status - Standards - Wayne Gannaway.

Gannaway stated that this is a working document. With the new UDC, we are tied to our review guidelines with sustainability, social equity, and economics. If you demolish an existing building, unless you recycle it, that is wasted - which is embodied energy. The other piece is social equity We need places that have more transportation modes. This is like the Central High School. Digby stated that they have it developed and then have it reused. Our job is not to take out of aesthetics, but being good stewards of them. Our job in the design review is a newer approach for Historic Preservations. Woodward stated that there is so much more. Woodward stated that they think that they are doing this. This would include walk-ability as well. This would include neighborhoods within the vicinity. We can be a tool for the Planning Department. In Ashland they have an initiative - Natural Step - which brings it down to a more practical level. The next step is to see all the properties we have and review those and then process them. Woodward stated that this would be a good thing to do. The next step is to see all the properties we have and take another look at those other properties.

Robertson stated that there would be more of these properties. Woodward will have this on the agenda with Wayne. He would like to have them for the next meeting.

- c. Update on Eastern Survey Phase II - Progress Report

MOTION/Second: Woodward/Gannaway for a Special Meeting to have a public meeting for Phase 3 Survey on June 5th at 3:30 in Room 303. **VOTE:** 4-0 Unanimous

- d. HPC Meeting date and time revisited

We will go back to the fourth Tuesday of each Month.

- e. They have Acceptance of the COA for the Sacred Heart Music Center

VI. Correspondence

- a. Multi-Model transportation facility - Ken Buehler

Ken Buehler stated that this for the Multi-Model transportation facility. This is difference with some of the other plans. The plan is to extent the tracks. They can do this with the platform itself. They have been in contact with the DTA. The only one that is going down is the Wells Fargo ramp. It looks interesting and then the architect tells you what you can do with it. Woodward stated that they tried to incorporate architecture in downtown. We don't need to worry about it - this is part of the development that might be an already standing structure. They are looking at the architectural aspects. This is part of the historic district in town. There may be development with already standing structures. Woodward stated that they are consulting parties for 106. Buehler stated that it is going to be a major problem. There are trying to find the time to close it down for a while. Harbor City is a nice building. The new one will be a lot nicer and friendlier. Woodward stated that the property is not on the national registry. It would have to go

through SHPO. The thing is that they need to have access. When can they close this down for 6 to 8 months with the hockey season and symphony season, which may be a problem.

- b. Interior Weatherization of 1422 90th Avenue West.
- c. Rehab of 2721 Minnesota Ave - Issues regarding Secretary of the Interior Standards.

If you read what SHPO put in there, the original person at the city was putting in vinyl windows fits the criteria architecture which is never okay. The city needs to take training. They had a letter that it fits the criteria but to caution them that it is not up to standards.

VII. Reports of Officers and Committees

- a. Planning Commission briefing - Drew Digby

They are having a small area plan and part of that is rezoning 4th street and Mesaba to 6th Avenue east. One of the hotels on park point is designed with these aesthetics. There is a lot of concern about what is right and what is not right. He would rather see things that work really well. He is a little reluctant to go back. There is a fine line when you can do anything but it still needs to have rules. You can over legislate. Digby stated that the goal here is to have a more walkable community. Digby stated that there is a grant to implement some ideas to focus on walkability.

- b. St. Louis County Historical Society - Ken Buehler

He had a meeting with the Board of Directors and reported to them his attendance record and they are fine with this. You can't take it personally. The new process will be managing with the County and this will eliminate conflicts of interest. He may not be the best guy for the job. He thinks that he has been good at getting back to everyone. They will be dredging and this is pulling the wall up. Buehler stated that this was from 1888 or 1886. This one wasn't an original. His concerns are with the development - Clyde Iron Works.

VIII. Update from Planning Department - Progress Report

Reminder of the June 5 meeting. HPC to invite Mike Koop to the meeting. Talk about issues and bring up the UDC. HPC would like a planner with experience in historic properties. They would like to have input on the hiring.

IX. New Business

- a. Waterfront Development - Slip 3

Woodward stated that they will be keeping the historic structures and will be putting in some condos. There are two problems. With all the buildings there are none that are close. Woodward stated that they had filled one in. The one at Clyde Iron Works did a good job. They are doing borings to assess what they need to clean up. This needs to be evaluated. They may go to a phase 2 or phase 3.

b. Spirit Mountain Concerns - American Indian Commission

He was contacted by Gabriel who is on the subcommittee and they are concerned about what is going on at Spirit Mountain. They wanted to partner with our commission and bring this together. As a city owned property

c. Identify properties to be put on Local Landmark Status

X. Other Business

XI. Adjournment

Respectfully,

David Woodward, Chair