

Heritage Preservation Commission
April 11, 2022 Meeting Minutes
Web-Ex Meeting Format

Due to the COVID-19 emergency, the HPC members participated through video conference from home. The meeting was held as a Special Meeting pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.021 in response to the Covid-19 emergency.

1) Call to Order and Roll Call

President Ken Buehler called to order the meeting of the Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) at 12:00 p.m. on Monday, April 11, 2022.

Attendance: (Via WebEx video conferencing – all votes conducted via roll call)

Attending: Ken Buehler, Stacey DeRoche, Jessica Fortney, Jess Mccullough, and Mike Poupore

Absent: Brandon Hartung, and Sarah Wisdorf

Staff Present: Steven Robertson, and Cindy Stafford

2) Public Hearings

None at this time.

3) Consideration of Minutes

March 14, 2022 Regular HPC Meeting

MOTION/Second: Poupore/Fortney approved the minutes

VOTE: (5-0)

4) Communications

Grant Application Skyline Parkway – Cindy Voigt of city engineering addressed the commission and gave an overview. There are grant opportunities available for federal highway money. She would like a letter of support from the HPC. They would like to submit a draft application to the MN Department of Transportation (DOT) by 6/6/2022. They propose to add a bi-way marker to capture the history of Barden Peak. The grant money dollars across the country are highly competitive. Chair Buehler asked what the local match is. Voigt stated the minimum is 20%, but they are proposing 5% more, so 25%. Mike Poupore asked if this proposal will go through SPHO. Voigt affirmed. Jess Mccullough thought the historic marker could reflect Native American Place names. Voight thought this was a good idea, and appreciated the input. Mccullough noted Ojibwe consultation would be beneficial. Chair Buehler agreed and noted the Indigenous Commission feedback would also be beneficial

MOTION/Second: Poupore/Mccullough authorize letter of support

VOTE: (5-0)

2022 Historic Preservation Conference – Steven Robertson gave an overview. The press release was shared in the HPC's packet. They are still waiting to see if their grant is approved. More info in May. Chair Buehler noted HPC members for the conference committee include himself, Poupore and Fortney. He asked the other commissioners to put some thought into it, and forward ideas to committee members.

Armory Grant Award – Per Robertson no action is needed. The Armory is a historic structure, so construction permits will be seen by the HPC. Poupore noted there is a grant for asbestos

removal, which is a huge deal and will help the Armory's life span. Chair Buehler added the armory is on Duluth's bonding bill list. Mccullough asked about the current plans for the Armory. Poupore serves on the Armory Board and noted they are proposing a food hall, with room for a museum, office space, and other interesting components including pickle ball and auditorium space.

NAPC Cincinnati, Ohio, July 13-17 – Per Robertson contact staff if HPC members are interested. There may be a limited travel budget to help with costs.

Rethos Places Reimagined issue 1, 2022 – Per Robertson no action is needed, but he shared the official document with the HPC.

Expansion of Rooftop Cell Equipment, Old Munger School – Per Robertson, this doesn't really effect the view shed. It won't impact the historical property standpoint.

5) Report of Final Disposition of Matters Previously Before the Commission – Historic Review of future Demolition Projects in Historic Districts – Robertson stated there will be a memo next month. Emails between SHPO and city staff led the city's attorneys to agree that the city wasn't handling the contributing national contributing properties properly. MN Rules on EAW's subsection 31 – historic places – language is very broad. It not only for local designated properties, but includes national sites. Some historic review could be EAW, 106, HPC review or SHPO issues a determination that the property is non-contributing. A similar circumstance happened in Northfield, MN. Robertson thanked the HPC for their diligence.

6) Reports of Officers, Staff and Committees
Robertson noted the planning commission will meet virtually tomorrow at 5 p.m. Nothing pertains directly to HPC matters.

7) Consideration of Matters Regarding Commission Action
None at this time.

8) Other Business
Poupore noted the HVAC renovation in City Hall. He would like to see the city's plans and SHPO's responses before anything get under way. Robertson noted SHPO is behind in their responses, but will share their comments regarding the HVAC work when they respond.

9) Adjournment
Meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Respectfully,

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Adam Fulton – Deputy Director
Department of Planning and Economic Development