



Anoka City Hall, Work Session Room (2nd floor), 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, August 9, 2022

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Minutes
 - a. May 10, 2022
 - b. June 14, 2022
- IV. Old Business
 - a. Paver Donation Program
 - b. List of Historic Properties
 - c. Update on 202 E. Main St. Building Renovation
- V. New Business
- VI. Committee Reports
 - a. Heritage Preservation Award Committee (Silberg-Jurek, Thurston)
 - b. Fundraising Committee (Rahn)
 - c. Event Committee (Ward, McFarland, Hansen)
- VII. Adjournment





**Minutes of the
Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC)**

**Held at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 10, 2022
Committee Room, Anoka City Hall**

I. **Call to Order** Vice Chair Thurston called the regular meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

II. **Roll Call**

Members present: Chair Bart Ward (arrived at 5:45 p.m.), Commissioners Colleen Hansen, Elizabeth McFarland, Cory Rahn (arrived at 5:20 p.m.), Barb Thurston, Lisa Silberg-Jurek

Members absent: None. Senior City Planner Clark Palmer noted Commissioner Reiter had resigned from the Commission.

Others present: None.

Staff present: Clark Palmer, Senior City Planner, Public Services Administrator Lisa LaCasse

III. **Approval of Minutes**

A. March 16, 2022.

Commissioner Hansen said she did not recall Commissioner Rahn saying he was interested in serving on the Anoka Agriculture Area Committee as noted on the bottom of Page 2. Mr. Palmer confirmed that Commissioner Rahn had expressed interest in serving on this committee.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HANSEN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SILBERG-JUREK, TO APPROVE THE MARCH 16, 2022, MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

B. April 12, 2022.

Commissioner McFarland asked for clarification regarding her statement on Page 2, Expansion of City Register, and suggested it read as follows: "She said she understood the process to be a way to better present to others the purpose of the Register and not funding."

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HANSEN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SILBERG-JUREK, TO APPROVE THE APRIL 12, 2022, MINUTES AS CORRECTED. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HANSEN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SILBERG-JUREK, TO MOVE CONSIDERATION OF ITEM V. FORWARD IN THE AGENDA. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

IV. **Old Business**

A. **List of Historic Properties**

Commissioner Thurston suggested the Commission email each member's top five selections of historic properties for consideration at the next meeting and suggested including the Anoka Historical Society building as well.

Mr. Palmer spoke about the possibility of including City Hall as one of the sites and suggested prioritizing sites as part of the Commission's list of historic properties and the need to balance costs with the need to restore.

B. **WPA Sidewalk Signage**

Mr. Palmer confirmed the Commission would like to see a sign with a post designating the WPA sidewalk instead of a plaque in the park and asked for input on the type of signage the Commission wants. He said the proposed design would require a new sketch with a slightly reduced HPC logo.

C. **Custom Printed Tablecloth with HPC Logo**

Mr. Palmer shared options for a tablecloth for HPC events at a cost of approximately \$250 for the upcoming Riverfest event and asked for more specifics on size and direction for the product. After discussion the Commission's consensus was a black tablecloth with a white runner and printed logo.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER RAHN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MCFARLAND, TO PROCEED WITH LOGO TABLECLOTH AND RUNNER AS PROPOSED. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

V. **New Business**

A. **Windego Amphitheater Future Use**

Public Services Administrator Lisa LaCasse presented an update on the future use of the Windego amphitheater and shared the Park Board's request for a decision on its use as part of the trail corridor construction. She shared background and historic photos of the theater from approximately 1980 when it was listed on the historic registry then shared history of reports and studies conducted on the amphitheater that included a noise assessment and other elements that concluded the theater was not safe for public use at this time. She spoke about its historic significance and integrity and shared the benefits of having a property listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Ms. LaCasse spoke about how discussions had occurred since 2006 about restoring or rebuilding the amphitheater and shared more about the condition of the existing concrete and potential of injury and costs to address the repair issues. She outlined options for consideration that included reconstruction, rehabilitation, stabilization, bury and landscape over, fully demolish and remove all concrete and

how any modification would affect Highway 169. She outlined the Park Board's recommendation on March 15 that included stabilization and/or bury part or all of the amphitheater that would result in no future use as an amphitheater but use as a passive park while maintaining its status on the National Register of Historic Places that would include interpretive signage as a tribute.

Commissioner Thurston spoke about the possibility of a boardwalk on the sidewalk to be farther away from the highway then asked about the need to stabilize the agricultural area.

Commissioner Rahn noted that even as use as a national registry site the amphitheater would be more realistic to relocate and reconstruct as the current physical structure is gone.

Commissioner Hansen spoke about the need to demolish the site as it was unsafe but to retain a portion as ruins and create a smaller amphitheater and interpretive area that preserves the use and history through similar design and style.

Commissioner Rahn suggested bury but reinforce to commemorate the site and said while we want the historic use it would be more useful if the site served as something more into the future and suggested bringing the concept forward as a question on an upcoming ballot for residents to vote on and decide, adding drainage issues have eliminated possible rehabilitation.

Chair Ward shared comments about the need to raise \$2-\$3 million to rebuild then spoke about the need for SHIPO to be more involved in the process.

The Commission discussed various options and direction in detail. Ms. LaCasse said there may be further direction that will be given as part of the study and work that will result from MnDOT review and approval, adding there are funds available as part of grants and studies to help answer some of the necessary questions and will likely be one of the first steps completed.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER RAHN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MCFARLAND, TO:

- **STABILIZE AND/OR BURY PART OF THE AMPHITHEATER**
- **MODIFY OR COVER UP THE TOP SEVERAL ROWS TO ALLOW FOR AN OVERLOOK/PLAZA AREA AND EXPANDED SIDEWALK ON FERRY STREET**
- **BURY THE NORTH SECTIONS D AND C TO STABILIZE - CONSTRUCT NEW VENUE IN LIKENESS BUT REDUCED SCALE OF ORIGINAL AMPHITHEATER CLOSER TO RIVER**
- **PORTIONS OF SECTIONS A AND B REMAIN AS A RUINS**
- **MAINTAIN NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES STATUS**
- **INCLUDE INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE AS A TRIBUTE**

MOTION CARRIED.

VI. **Committee Reports**

A. **Heritage Preservation Award Committee (Silberg-Jurek, Thurston)**

Commissioner Thurston spoke about the difficulty in identifying any properties for an award.

Mr. Palmer spoke about 2402 Ferry Street and noted nothing had been done besides the water line and electric permit, adding the porch was replaced in 2013 but nothing more recent.

Discussion was held on the possibility of minimizing the importance of the award and not force identifying properties if none truly fit the intent of the program.

Commissioner Hansen said she impressed with those property owners who have maintained their properties and thought it was important to recognize.

Chair Ward suggested including ads in upcoming newsletters looking for nominees.

Commissioner Rahn spoke about the importance of the buildings or the corridor as well as it makes up the feel of the City.

B. **Fundraising Committee (Rahn)**

Chair Ward spoke about the possibly of an event for Federal Cartridges' 100-year anniversary and combining theirs with ours. Discussion was held on the logistics of a joint event. Consensus was to order a sandwich board for Federal Cartridge and a plaque.

C. **Event Committee (Ward, McFarland, Hansen)**

Commissioner Thurston spoke about their attendance at the school board meeting and plaques at Sandburg Education Center and the need to continue with school board members and suggested a joint meeting be scheduled to continue the discussion.

VII. **Adjournment**

MOTION TO ADJOURN BY COMMISSIONER RAHN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HANSEN, MOTION CARRIED 6-0 AT 6:42 P.M.



**Minutes of the
Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC)**

**Held at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 14, 2022
Committee Room, Anoka City Hall**

- I. **Call to Order** Chair Bart Ward called the regular meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.
- II. **Roll Call**
Members present: Chair Bart Ward, Commissioners Colleen Hansen, Elizabeth McFarland, Cory Rahn, Barb Thurston, Lisa Silberg-Jurek

Members absent: None.

Others present: None.

Staff present: Clark Palmer, City Planner
- III. **Approval of Minutes**
None.
- IV. **Old Business**
 - A. **List of Historic Properties**

Mr. Palmer shared a presentation regarding a list of historic properties and said Commissioners Hansen and Thurston submitted lists of top five historic sites. He spoke about the need to create a prioritized that included budgets for future reports and studies and to determine the best way to protect the selected sites, including consideration of feasibility and costs and the contemporaneous recommendation to the Council for inclusion on the City register and how to protect. Discussion was held on potential sites that included poetry rock, stone grills, the State hospital and grounds, Franklin, Sandburg, Lincoln and Washington Schools, old Milk Factory, Calgary Cemetery, Goodrich Field, Green Haven Clubhouse, and St. Stephen's Church.

Mr. Palmer said he would compile the list for further discussion at the next meeting then include on an upcoming Council worksession for inclusion on the City register and incorporation in the overall park master plan.
 - B. **WPA Sidewalk Signage**

Mr. Palmer confirmed the Commission wanted a sign with a post designating the WPA sidewalk instead of a plaque in the park. He reviewed proposed language and asked for the Commission's feedback. After discussion the Commission finalized language.
 - C. **Windego Amphitheater Future Use**

Discussion was held about the outcome of the amphitheater discussion at the Council worksession. Mr. Palmer shared the outcome of the worksession that included cleanup of the site through removal of all vegetation, section D evaluated for stabilization without disturbance, SHIPO for inclusion on the historic registry, grant funding, sidewalk expansion, and how the upper area would not be modified.

Commissioner McFarland noted the balance between desires with the potential of grant funding. Discussion was held on creating recognition of the site and the subsequent costs that range from demolition to complete renovation.

V. **New Business**

A. **Planning for Riverfest 2022**

Mr. Palmer shared they currently have 55 pavers to sell then spoke about logistics of taking and fulfilling orders when City Hall is closed on the weekends. Discussion was held on logistics that included tent set up, use of the logo tablecloth and who would be attending the event.

VI. **Committee Reports**

A. **Heritage Preservation Award Committee (Silberg-Jurek, Thurston)**

Discussion was held on including only Federal Cartridge and recognition of selected properties through the sandwich board program. Mr. Palmer shared about the recent success of the Curb Appeal Residential Enhancement (CARE) Grant Program being offered through the Housing and Redevelopment Authority and how these programs result in others improving their properties as a result.

B. **Fundraising Committee (Rahn)**

Discussion was held on the price point for the pavers and the desire to purchase Halloween witch medallions as fundraising items for Riverfest.

MOTION TO PURCHASE 30 HALLOWEEN WITCH MEDALLIONS BY COMMISSIONER RAHN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER THURSTON, MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

MOTION TO SELL THE PAVERS FOR \$40 FOR THE SMALLER SIZE AND \$45 FOR THE LARGER SIZE BY COMMISSIONER HANSEN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MCFARLAND, MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

C. **Event Committee (Ward, McFarland, Hansen)**

Chair Ward spoke about Federal Cartridge's ceremony in December and the upcoming event that would be occurring soon.

VII. **Adjournment**

MOTION TO ADJOURN BY COMMISSIONER RAHN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER THURSTON, MOTION CARRIED 6-0 AT 5:54 P.M.