



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

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Minutes
 - a. October 11, 2022
- IV. Old Business
 - a. Federal HPC Award
 - b. Sandwich Board Sign Recipients
- 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, October 11, 2022
Committee Room, Anoka City Hall**

I. **Call to Order** Vice Chair Barb Thurston called the regular meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

II. **Roll Call**
Members present: Vice Chair Barb Thurston, Commissioners James Collin, Colleen Hansen, Commissioner Elizabeth McFarland (arrived at 5:05 p.m.), Cory Rahn, Lisa Silberg-Jurek

Members absent: Chair Bart Ward

Others present: None.

Staff present: Clark Palmer, Senior City Planner

III. **Oaths of Office (Collins)**
Vice Chair Barb Thurston issued the oath of office to Commissioner James Collins.

Commissioner Collins shared about his background. The HPC welcomed him to the Commission.

IV. **Approval of Minutes**
A. September 13, 2022.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER RAHN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HANSEN, TO APPROVE THE JULY 12, 2022, MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

V. **Old Business**
A. **Anoka Agriculture Area Committee**

Mr. Palmer shared that Commissioners Hansen and McFarland had volunteered to serve on the Anoka Agriculture Area Committee. He outlined the Committee composition, including the property owners, then requested an update from the first meeting.

Commissioner McFarland said there was not a lot of opportunity to share past historical reference or memories regarding the grain bins and said she was unsure of the direction and purpose of the Committee. She said the group spoke about direction regarding the shore and that the Mill site had shared their plans for the feed site but was unsure of their direction on the shore and said she was unaware that property

owners were interested in purchasing the grain bins which changed the direction. She said she was not comfortable providing any opinions on next steps as the City should have more discussions first.

Commissioner Hansen said it was difficult to discuss possibilities when there are two property owners in place as this is private property, three including the City. She said some would like to purchase the property and create an event center then noted the Park Board had suggested letting the property owners continue with the property and create a business and generate taxes.

Mr. Palmer said there would be a consultant/site investigation meeting for master planning for a greater vision for the area, adding this is one of the areas on the HPC's list for restoration and that the Larsons are key to the process.

Commissioner Rahn said the point of the Committee is to provide input now before too much progress is made, especially if they sell the property.

Commissioner Hansen said if preservation is the HPC's goal the property owners have done a great job preserving and restoring the site and felt the property was in good hands.

Commissioner Collins asked if the bins were structurally sound and asked about building erosion and how the property owners were able to acquire insurance. Mr. Palmer said the bins were sound for their current use but not for something associated with the farmers market or some other use then spoke about how the City could potentially help with stabilization to ensure its preservation and privatizing the entire area.

Commissioner Hansen said it was not as important that the building remain public but instead should focus on preservation. Commissioner Rahn agreed as long as future demolition does not occur.

Commissioner McFarland noted the property owner still intended to operate and shared their business was not for sale and to instead focus on the grain bins.

B. Preservation of Historic WPA Stone Fireplaces at Goodrich Field and Atkin Riverside Park

Mr. Palmer shared the need to get quotes to preserve the WPA grills and that he was able to identify a contact through MnDOT who had a list of experienced qualified masons as this project would likely include custom mortar and reshaping. He shared a list of experience qualified masons with the Commission and said this project would be included in an upcoming budget for repair.

Vice Chair Thurston asked for an update on the WPA sidewalk signage and suggested the Commission take a photo with the sign once installed. Mr. Palmer said he had forwarded the new text to the vendor who will work to create the sign.

VI. New Business

A. **Federal HPC Award**

Mr. Palmer shared the focus of this item was what the Federal Cartridge award should say as this was unique as a 100-year celebration to recognize their contributions all this time.

Commissioner Collins asked if we should incorporate their larger corporation name Vista Outdoors. Mr. Palmer suggested Federal Cartridge Company. Commissioner Silberg-Jurek will confirm what they would prefer.

Vice Chair Thurston spoke about highlighting community partnership with the City as well as the jobs they provide.

Mr. Palmer said he would provide a draft to the Commission for input at the next meeting.

B. **2022 Sandwich Board Sign Recipients**

Mr. Palmer shared he would like to place an order for signs from Sign Station as we have the frames inhouse. The Commission identified the property owners who need signs replaced. Mr. Palmer said he would follow up on completing the task and order additional signs for award in the spring then asked about property owners who may not wish to pay and have a board in place.

Discussion was held and the Commission concluded if property owners no longer wanted the sign they could return the sign for recycling/reuse.

Commissioner Collins suggested including reference to increased property values for historic homes. Mr. Palmer cautioned the home should be actually designated as historic first before including such language.

VII. Committee Reports

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

Commissioner McFarland said an invitation list needs to be created in order to properly budget for the event.

Discussion was held on event details including speakers, menu, invitations, and program and a balance of the number of City/Commission attendees and Federal Cartridge attendees, including retirees. The Commission said they would finalize the invitation list at the next meeting for mailing the following day.

B. **Fundraising Committee (Rahn)**

Mr. Palmer shared an update on recent sales of pavers and medallions and the social media push that occurred, including sharing on the Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce. He said unfortunately staff had not seen an increase in sales as of yet but noted we sold more medallions at River Fest than pavers and suggested the

medallions be incorporated into the new sidewalk on Jackson Street in front of each business' door.

C. Event Committee (Ward, McFarland, Hansen)

No further update.

VIII. Adjournment

**MOTION TO ADJOURN BY COMMISSIONER RAHN, SECONDED BY
COMMISSIONER HANSEN, MOTION CARRIED 6-0 AT 6:23 P.M.**