

**CITY OF NEWPORT  
HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF JULY 9, 2014  
REGULAR MEETING**

The July 9, 2014 regular meeting of the Newport Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) was called to order by Vice Chairperson Linda Michie at 5:30 p.m. in the council chamber of the Newport City Hall.

**Roll Call**

The following members were present: Linda Michie (chair), Jo Bailey, Fred Leimbek, and Bev Bartl,

Also present: Robert Vogel (consultant).

**Secretary's Report**

The minutes of the May 14, 2014 annual meeting were reviewed and approved.

**High water impacts**

Consultant Vogel reported that no heritage landmark properties appeared to have been damaged by the recent high water in the Mississippi River. The F. A. Marko Riverfront may have sustained underwater damage that cannot be fully evaluated until after the water level goes down.

**Brown House study**

Asbestos and hazardous materials abatement work has been completed. Preliminary historical and architectural research is underway. Consultant Vogel advised the commission that in-depth physical investigation of the interior of the house could begin in late August or September.

**Historic neighborhoods**

A map is being prepared to document the parts of the city where concentrations of older housing stock occur. There was discussion of the criteria used to determine which neighborhoods are "historic" based on the age and condition of the houses. This data will be used to help develop a land use planning and zoning framework for dealing with the city's older residential neighborhoods.

**Pioneer Day**

Pioneer Day is Sunday, August 10. The HPC will have a table in Pioneer Memorial Park. The veterans' monument was discussed. Bailey Nurseries will be donating plants

for the planters around the flagpole. The HPC agreed to sponsor another in its series of public lectures at the Newport Library on Wednesday, August 13 at 6:30 p.m. The subject of the talk will be “historic floods.”

### **Old house database**

Information on the city’s older housing stock is being assembled. Consultant Vogel will request the baseline information from the county assessor’s office. Commission member Leimbeck has recent photographs of many of the old houses in Newport that could be included in the database. The goal is to produce an online catalog of information about every house in the city that is over 50 years old.

### **Conference**

The annual state meeting for heritage preservation commissions will be held in St. Paul on September 17-19. If no HPC member is able to attend, staff will provide a training session later this year.

### **Haugen Award**

There was discussion of the presentation of this year’s Haugen award and the positive response received. .

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C. Vogel, Preservation Planning Consultant