

**CITY OF NEWPORT  
HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF JULY 11, 2012  
REGULAR MEETING**

The July 11, 2012 regular meeting of the Newport Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) was called to order by Chairperson Linda Michie at 4:30 p.m. in the council chamber of the Newport City Hall.

**Roll Call**

The following members were present: Jo Bailey, Beverly Bartl, Linda Michie (chair).

Member Steven Lanz was absent.

Also present: Robert Vogel (consultant); City Administrator Brian Anderson; Mayor Tim Gerghty (council liaison).

**Secretary's Report**

The minutes of the May 16, 2012 regular meeting were approved as mailed.

**Veterans Memorial**

There was discussion of landscaping plans for the veterans' memorial in Pioneer Park prepared by the designer at Bailey Nurseries. Chairperson Michie provided the commission with information on brick pavers. Mayor Geraghty reported that at its last meeting the city council had set the donation requirement at \$75 per brick.

**Newport Library**

The commission reviewed the landscape improvements undertaken by the Girl Scouts, with assistance from Bailey Nurseries. It was noted that the building's foundation is in need of tuck pointing.

**Pioneer Day**

There was discussion of having some kind of public event at the library during the week leading up to Pioneer Day. Consultant Vogel said he would look for a speaker. The HPC will have a table in the park on August 12 with a display of materials relating to the proposed veterans' memorial.

**Red Rock Transit Station**

City Administrator Anderson provided an update on the planning for the transit station.

## **Heritage Resources Inventory**

Consultant Vogel reviewed the list of heritage preservation resources in the city that have been designated or determined eligible for designation as Newport Heritage Landmarks. The following properties have been officially designated Newport Heritage Landmarks by the City Council:

- Armstrong-Yelland House (“Dilaram Cottage”). 280 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue
- Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Switching Tower (“Train Tower”). Behind City Hall
- Kaposia Mission Building (“Kavanaugh Log Cabin”). On the grounds of the Newport United Methodist Church
- Marko, F. A., Riverfront. 121 10<sup>th</sup> Street
- Newport Baptist Church/Public Library. 405 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- Red Rock Cemetery. End of Cemetery Road
- Red Rock/Eyah Shah. On the grounds of the Newport United Methodist Church

The following properties have been determined eligible for designation as Heritage Landmarks by the Heritage Preservation Commission:

- Bailey, J. V., House. 1325 Bailey Road
- Brown, William R., House. 331 7<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Farmers Terminal State Bank Building. 2104 Hastings Avenue
- Grove Street Overlook. Mississippi River at 10<sup>th</sup> Street
- Huganin, James H., House. 597 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- Main Street Landing Site. Mississippi River at 6<sup>th</sup> Street
- Mill Pond/Sheldon-Durand Mill Site. Mississippi River
- Newport Cemetery. North side Highway 10-61 at 65<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Newport Elementary School. 851 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- Newport Village Hall. 600 Seventh Avenue (next to City Hall)
- Park Place Overlook. Mississippi River at Park Place
- Parker, Charles A., House. 295 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- Pioneer Memorial Park. 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue & 6<sup>th</sup> Street
- 12<sup>th</sup> Street Overlook. Mississippi River at 12<sup>th</sup> Street

Motion by Bailey, seconded by Bartl, to adopt the list as the official inventory of properties worthy of preservation; the motion passed unanimously.

## **Red Rock Cemetery**

The condition of the existing gate and the need to construct a new fence around the Red Rock Cemetery was discussed.

## **Demolition Review**

Consultant Vogel provided a brief review of the city's policy with respect to demolition permits. Since the early 1990s, there has been a 5-day waiting period for all demolition permits for structures over 50 years old; the permits are held at City Hall for five days to allow the HPC an opportunity to record the subject property with photographs. This policy does not apply to properties designated as Newport Heritage Landmarks (by ordinance all city permits in relation to these properties require a Certificate of Appropriateness from the HPC) and the structures themselves are not considered preservation resources. The policy has been a success because it has allowed the HPC to record important information about older buildings that would otherwise be lost without any inconvenience to property owners and contractors.

## **Minnesota Preservation Conference**

The annual meeting for HPCs will be held in Fergus Falls on September 13-14. The Newport HPC must send at least one of its members to the conference to fulfill the city's Certified Local Government obligations.

## **Pioneer Park Building**

There was discussion of alternatives to demolition of the old (built circa 1940) concrete block building in Pioneer Memorial Park. Consultant Vogel advised the commission that the structure was considered a preservation resource because it contributed to the historical significance and integrity of the park. Members suggested that the building could be renovated and the exterior decorated with murals. Staff will develop a feasibility study for adaptive reuse of the structure and report back to the HPC.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C. Vogel, Preservation Planning Consultant