

**CITY OF NEWPORT  
HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 28, 2012  
REGULAR MEETING**

The November 28, 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, Steven Lanz, Linda Michie (chair).

Also present: Robert Vogel, Preservation Planner; Mayor Tim Gerghty (council liaison).

**Secretary's Report**

The minutes of the September 19, 2012 regular meeting were approved as mailed.

**CLG Annual Report**

HPC members received copies of the Certified Local Government annual report for federal fiscal year 2012, prepared by the city's preservation planning consultant and previously submitted to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

**Heritage Landmarks**

HPC members received the revised list of properties designated or determined eligible for designation as Newport Heritage Landmarks. There was discussion concerning the status of the historic Armstrong-Yelland House, which has been rebuilt and altered from its original appearance.

**Mill Pond**

Consultant Vogel reported on the disposition of the Johnson family landholdings at the Mill Pond locality and his inspection of the historic William R. Brown House, 337 Seventh Street, which is part of the Johnson estate. The city has expressed interest in acquiring part of the Mill Pond site for conservancy purposes; this could include the historic Brown House, believed to be the oldest standing house in Newport that remains on its original site. Vogel advised the commission that in his opinion, the Brown House was in good condition, though altered somewhat from its original appearance; previously evaluated as eligible for Heritage Landmark designation, the house retains sufficient historic integrity to warrant preservation. Adaptive use options for the property were briefly discussed.

## **Veterans Memorial**

There was discussion of fundraising for the veterans memorial plaza in Pioneer Memorial Park.

## **Park Building**

The HPC continued its discussion from previous meetings regarding the historical significance and preservation potential of the circa 1940s concrete block building in Pioneer Memorial Park, which is currently used for storage by the athletic association. There was a consensus of opinion that the building should be retained and renovated for public use; members expressed interest in organizing volunteers to clean out the interior and paint the exterior. Staff was directed to prepare a feasibility study to be presented to the HPC at its March meeting.

## **Annual Meeting**

The commission discussed plans for its nineteenth annual meeting, to be held on January 9, 2013, with a reception and a “legislative dialogue” with local government officials following the business meeting. Consultant Vogel was directed to invite Newport’s Congressional and Legislative representatives, as well as city council and county commissioners.

## **Nominations**

Acting as a committee of the whole, the HPC members nominated the following slate of officers for 2013:

- Linda Michie, chairperson
- Beverly Bartl, vice chairperson
- JoAnn Bailey, secretary

Election of officers will take place at the HPC’s annual meeting, January 9, 2013.

## **CLG Grant**

The commission brainstormed on possible Certified Local Government grant ideas. Pre-applications for the FY 2013 federal grant cycle are due in January. Consultant Vogel was directed to see if the State Historic Preservation Office would be interested in funding a study of heritage preservation resources associated with transportation.

## **Cemetery Fence**

Consultant Vogel informed the HPC that he was looking into possible funding sources for a new fence and gate at the historic Red Rock Cemetery.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C. Vogel, Preservation Planning Consultant