

**CITY OF NEWPORT
HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF JULY 8, 2015
REGULAR MEETING**

The July 8, 2015 regular meeting of the Newport Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) was called to order by Chairperson Linda Michie at 5:00 p.m. in the council chamber of the Newport City Hall.

Roll Call

The following members were present: Linda Michie (chair), Jo Bailey, Bev Bartl, Fred Leimbeck and Mary Ann Newman.

Also present: Bill Sumner (city council liaison) and Robert Vogel (preservation planning consultant).

Secretary's report

The minutes of the May 13, 2015 annual meeting were approved as mailed.

Brown-Johnson house

Consultant Vogel provided a brief report on the progress of the historical and architectural survey of the historic Brown-Johnson House, 331 7th Street, which is nearing completion. The buildings will be demolished in the fall. There was discussion of the advantages of deconstruction over demolition and the desirability of salvaging the oldest framing lumber. There will also be an attempt to sort through the contents of the garage.

Pioneer Day

Plans for Pioneer Day (August 9) were discussed. The HPC will have a table and a display of plans for the adaptive reuse of the 1940s park building. The public will be asked to provide input on various reuse scenarios.

Train tower roof

Consultant Vogel reported that the model railroad club had asked the city to repair or replace the roof on the historic train tower. The city is in the process of obtaining cost estimates for the work, which will require a Certificate of Appropriateness from the HPC. There was discussion of ways to fund these kinds of projects involving city-owned historic buildings. The question of whether or not the railroad club paid the city rent was raised. Consultant Vogel will work with the city's public works department to ensure that best cultural resource management practices are followed.

Library lecture series

Consultant Vogel will give a talk on Newport's agricultural heritage at the public library at 7:00 p.m. on September 9. A holiday-themed presentation is being planned for November or December.

Conference

The annual statewide preservation conference will be held in Little Falls on September 17-18. Scholarship grants are available from the SHPO. Consultant Vogel asked that any members interested in attending the conference should contact him as soon as possible.

Red Rock rail meeting

Mary Ann Newman will represent the HPC at the Red Rock Corridor meeting on July 22.

Red Rock Cemetery

Councilman Sumner reported that a business is interesting in developing the property located next to the historic Red Rock Cemetery. This could enhance the historic site's accessibility and exposure to the public.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C. Vogel, Preservation Planning Consultant