

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ST. CLOUD HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION

A meeting of the St. Cloud Heritage Preservation Commission was held on April 27, 2010, at 3:30 p.m. in the St. Cloud City Hall Council Chambers. Members present were Bartlow, Berg, Fischer, Morgan, and HRA Board and City Council representative Johnson. Chirhart and SCSU representative Ludwig were absent.

Approval of Minutes: Fischer moved to approve the minutes of February 23, 2010. The motion was seconded by Berg and carried unanimously.

Open Forum: No one was present to speak at the open forum.

City's Historic Preservation Month: Tammy Campion, Senior Planner, stated that June will be recognized as "St. Cloud's Historic Preservation Month." One century home plaque will be presented at the City Council meeting on June 7, and a presentation of HPC initiatives will be made to the Council. In addition, the annual HPC newsletter will be mailed in June. Campion noted the handout written by Chairperson Bartlow will be inserted in the portion of the newsletter entitled "Greetings from the St. Cloud HPC Chair." The Annual Southside Historic Home Tour has been scheduled for June 26 as part of Granite City Days. Campion stated that the "Going Downtown" History Hunt will take place on June 12. That is an initiative through the Downtown Council which is geared towards kids of all ages. Staff is suggesting that this year the annual historic preservation awards be done through public nomination with review/approval by the HPC. Campion stated the architect for the Riverview restoration is interested in submitting a nomination. Morgan asked how the City makes the public aware of the nomination process. Campion answered that it would be done through press releases, Cable Channel 19, the City's website, Neighborhood Coalition, etc. Bartlow pointed out that the June 1 dates in the April 19 staff memo should be changed to June 7. She also suggested that the time of the St. Cloud Historic Properties Seminar listed in the "St. Cloud Preservation Year-At-A-Glance" section of the newsletter may need to be changed. Also, the newsletter article on the History Hunt should specify what age group is being targeted. She also

noted that the website address on the back page is not very readable. Bartlow then inquired if I-pods will be available for use at City Listening Day for the audio tours. Campion stated that she can have posters at Listening Day to promote the tours, and a marketing campaign will be done in June as well to promote the tours. Campion asked the Commission if they were comfortable with the public process for the awards, and they agreed that they were.

St. Cloud Historic Properties Seminar (August): Campion stated that the St. Cloud Area Association of Realtors (SCAAR) has partnered with the City for a number of years on the St. Cloud Historic Properties Seminar; however, participation levels have been decreasing. It has been determined the reason is that participants can only receive continuing education credits for the same course every three years. Therefore, Campion suggested the following three-year rotating curriculum: Year 1 – 2010 – downtown development and the St. Cloud Commercial Historic District; Year 2 – 2011 – historic neighborhood organization, process, structure, services, and financing options; and, Year 3 – 2012 - residential development and the Southside Neighborhood Historic District. SCAAR has asked for a fall seminar date, and staff has suggested August 19. Staff is also suggesting a two hour seminar as opposed to the three hour seminar that has been done in previous years. Campion stated that this year's seminar will focus on downtown development; and hopefully, Morgan will once again be in charge of the presentation portion of the program. Berg moved to approve a three-year rotating curriculum as outlined by Campion. The motion was seconded by Morgan and carried unanimously.

Pantown Tour and River Walk Tour Progress Reports: Dan Hoisington, Hoisington Preservation Consultants, stated that the Pantown tour is fairly straightforward and is ready to put into visual format. On June 12, the Stearns History Museum is having a picnic and is bringing out some of their Pan automobiles. He is hoping to take some pictures of them driving around to include in the tour. The River Walk audio tour is different from the other audio tours in that there aren't necessarily specific buildings or sites to stand in front of that will tell the story. Hoisington stated that he wrote a draft that will be the core for the scripts for the major themes. He reviewed the proposed

stops along the tour. Hoisington stated that emphasis must be placed on the joining of the three towns, Lower, Upper and Middle, into one city. Hoisington asked if there is anything left in the City associated with the Burbank brothers (Burbank Trading Company), and Campion said she would check into that. Campion stated that Stop 11 should be Riverside Park rather than Wilson Park. The Municipal Services (water plant) could be seen from the Veteran's Bridge. That would shorten the walk. Also, rather than focusing on the ravine in Hester Park, the focus could be on the ravine on 3rd Ave. Hoisington said he would like to get people up to the north side since all the tours are on the south side. He said that in reality, this is probably a driving tour, not a walking tour. Hoisington stated that at last month's meeting, mention was made of a Native American site. Bartlow stated that reference was made to that by Steve Ludwig. Hoisington said it will be difficult to find a specific location that will be appropriate for visuals for 'Roads' and 'Steamboats'. He said he is uncertain how the roads came in along the east bank of the river. Morgan explained that the oxcart trail follows where Hwy. 10 is located on the east side of the river. The Woods trail is in the current location of I-94. Morgan added that there is a piece of that oxcart trail on a farm, and it would be a great picture. It is on the Torborg farm near Richmond. He stated he has the information. Hoisington suggested two separate stops, one for each of the gardens. Morgan said he is impressed with this tour. It helps him understand why the river has never been seen from an aesthetic standpoint because it was such an economic asset. Hoisington said he wishes he could tell the story about recreation on the river since the 1920's. Bartlow felt the wildlife and environmental aspects should be included. Hoisington said the environmental aspect of the river will show people their responsibility to the river. Campion stated that the river is protected under State law south of the dam as a scenic river segment. The Commission approved of the stops as discussed.

Administrative HAP Approvals: Campion stated that since the February meeting, there have been a number of administrative HAP approvals for window replacements, reroofs, an egress window, and a new front porch.

Other Business: Campion noted that the Northside-Hester Park Neighborhood Tour will take place on May 1 from 1 to 4 p.m. The proceeds from ticket sales for that tour will support programming in that neighborhood.

Bartlow pointed out that the University Drive Corridor Study – Historic Features Design Charette will be from 5-7 pm. tonight in the St. Cloud City Hall Council Chambers.

Fischer noted that the federal government, on April 23, imposed a new set of procedures for buildings prior to 1978 that may potentially contain lead paint. That will apply to all historic structures. It will require contractors to put on hazmat suits when doing work in those buildings. Almost all pre-1965 structures will have lead paint.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4 p.m.

Tom Fischer, Secretary