

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE FOR THE CITY OF SUPERIOR

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, October 12, 5:30 p.m.

The HPC meeting for the city of Superior was called to order at 5:35 p.m. The meeting was held at City Hall in room 270 and by web and phone conference.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Kathleen Laakso, Matt Osterlund, Brian Finstad, Tom Wondolkowski

Staff Present: Jeff Skrenes

Others Present: Megan Meyer, Shelley Nelson

Member Absent: Tim Meyer

There being a quorum present, the meeting was in order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Board Member Laakso, seconded by Finstad, to approve the September 14, 2022 minutes, carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Nomination of Old Fire Hall & Police Museum to the local register of historic places

Jeff Skrenes gave a summary of the process for nominating the Fire Hall to the local register, and asked if museum board or staff would prefer the public hearing to be held after a board meeting to pass a motion in support. Megan Meyer stated that as long as the board and staff is made aware of the public hearing, they can attend and express support at that time. The public hearing will be requested at the earliest allowable time after notice has been given.

MOTION to place the Old Fire Hall & Police Museum on the local register of historic places, and to request a public hearing on the matter, made by Board Member Finstad and seconded by Laakso, carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Princess Theater – no significant new items to discuss. A task force is being set up with the mayor's office to help navigate the design, restoration, and historic preservation process, but has not met yet.
2. Carnegie Library – the design work RFP was created and the work was assigned to the Meyer Group. The design has been completed and an RFP for the work will be placed for bids within the week. There are three known local roofing companies that may perform the work, and two do have the ability to begin and at least significantly complete work before spring. The design proposal is for the membrane only, and any supporting work needed for the roof structure. A secondary layer, such as shingles, would exceed the available budget allocated by the Common Council. Board Member Wondolkowski asked about the durability and performance of the roof with only a membrane. Skrenes responded that the concern was raised with the Meyer Group. The membrane itself will be adequate in the short term, and a long-term negative impact on performance or durability is not expected. The time frame for the site is to have it prepared for

marketing to a new developer within eighteen months, and the new developer would proceed with their own roof at that time. Further, the roof covering could be adjusted to whatever period the developer wants to restore it to (since there were different roof coverings at the library over the years).

The design proposal also noted some water intrusion at various windows and recommended repair, and also recommended a heat source to keep the building at roughly 50 degrees during the winter months. The budget likely does not allow for other restoration or repair work, but we are looking into the heat source.

3. CLG Status – Staff has confirmed with Wisconsin Historical Society staff that our code does not in fact contain what was thought of as the likely most difficult aspect of policy change to achieve CLG eligibility. It was thought that code gave property owners the ability to prevent designation of their own property if they chose, which CLG status does not allow. However, this is not in Superior city code. Most of the changes needed lie with converting the Historic Preservation Committee to a Commission, and staff would have to work with the mayor's and city attorney's offices on that issue. WHS staff is busy with the state preservation conference, but will be able to discuss a strategy after this week. Skrenes anticipates that a specific motion will be ready to make at the November HPC meeting and then the issue can be brought before the Common Council in 2022, one of the HPC's goals for this year.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Jeff Skrenes