

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ST. CLOUD HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION

A meeting of the St. Cloud Heritage Preservation Commission was held on May 28, 2013 at 3:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. Members present were Berg, Holtberg, Lenaghan, Pack and Rakotz. Fischer was absent. Lenaghan welcomed new members Rick Holtberg of the Planning Commission and Betsy Rakotz.

Consent Agenda: Pack moved to approve the minutes from the December 18, 2012 Heritage Preservation Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Lenaghan and carried unanimously.

Alteration Permit / 701 St. Germain St W: Carla Chapman, Senior Planner, explained a request to install two new 4' x 8' aluminum signs on the front façades of the building at 701 St. Germain St W. Staff is concerned with the size and color of the sign. Staff is recommending denial and has asked the applicant consider a more appropriate sign. The subcommittee agreed with the staff recommendation and offered an alternative for the applicant to consider.

Joe Kucan of Blizzard Hospitality Corp explained that the proposed signs were purchased in the process of purchasing the bar, Biology 701. He stated he is happy to work with the HPC, but he is concerned with cost. Lenaghan stated that due to the 40-day review period restriction, the request will be denied at this time. He noted that the signs could be used during the interim on the inside of the windows.

Holtberg made a motion to approve the alteration permit. The motion was seconded by Rakotz and failed unanimously. Rakotz made a motion to approve the Findings of Facts. The motion was seconded by Lenaghan and carried unanimously.

Downtown Council 2013 Adopt-A-Planter Program: The St. Cloud Downtown Council is partnering with downtown businesses to expand its Adopt-A-Planter Program. The Downtown Council will be purchasing 18 additional large planters to be placed in clusters of three in downtown

St. Cloud. The St. Cloud Heritage Preservation Ordinance states that public or private improvements in public right-of-way within local historic districts require HPC review and approval. Staff is asking for advisory comments regarding the flower pots. The subcommittee felt the program would be an opportunity to display public art on the planters. Rakotz expressed concern with painting the planters. She stated they will not have continuity and will contradict the intention of the program. Holtberg agreed with the concern.

St. Cloud's Heritage Preservation Month – June: Each year, the City recognizes one month as 'St. Cloud's Heritage Preservation Month'. Several preservation activities will be held in June, including Presentation of Century Home plaques, 2013 Heritage Preservation Awards, and the St. Cloud Historic Downtown 'History Hunt'.

The HPC gave its recommendation that Mayor Dave Kleis proclaim June as 'St. Cloud's Heritage Preservation Month'.

St. Cloud's Historic Downtown 'History Hunt': The fourth annual 'History Hunt' will be held on Saturday, June 29 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in connection with the Downtown Walk About immediately following the Granite City Days Parade. A Certified Local Government (CLG) grant was awarded to the City for \$1,400 with City matching funds of \$2,000. The grant dollars will be utilized in promotion, printing costs and in-kind for staff time.

2013 Heritage Preservation Awards: Staff is forwarding the potential nominees for the 2013 Heritage Preservation Award for the HPC's confirmation. The nominees are: 1) The Barths – Pioneer Place on Fifth and D.B. Searles, 2) 'Main Street to Eighth Street' A Lewis Family Celebration, and, 3) John Lund – St. Cloud Remembered Facebook Page.

Holtberg made a motion to approve the nominations. The motion was seconded by Pack and carried unanimously.

HPC Retreat: Staff is proposing two possible dates for the 2013 HPC Retreat. Topics of discussion will include review of Heritage Preservation Ordinance, HPC Rules and Procedures,

development procedures and funding. Commissioners discussed dates and locations for the HPC Retreat.

Preservation Update / Administrative Approvals: Two new businesses will be coming to the St. Cloud Commercial Historic District: Jett's Pizza and Central Perk. The City's placemaking initiatives are moving forward with attention on heritage preservation. The second volume of local historian Bill Morgan's book 'Earth, Wood, Stone' is now available. Pioneer Place on Fifth is celebrating the building's 100th Anniversary with 'Taking It to the Streets' music festival.

There have been two alteration permit applications this year for Biology 701 and Central Perk – each for signage.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Tom Fischer, Secretary