

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
EDINA HERITAGE PRESERVATION BOARD  
TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2006, AT 7:00 P.M.  
EDINA CITY HALL – MAYOR’S CONFERENCE ROOM  
4801 WEST 50<sup>TH</sup> STREET**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Bob Kojetin, Marie Thorpe, Chris Rofidal, Lou Blemaster, Laura Benson, Nancy Scherer, and Ian Yue

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Karen Ferrara, and Arlene Forrest

**STAFF PRESENT:** Joyce Repya, Associate Planner

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Robert Vogel, Heritage Preservation Consultant

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**I. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

Member Thorpe moved for approval of the minutes from the April 11, 2006 meeting. Member Yue seconded the motion. All voted aye. The motion carried.

**II. DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE HERITAGE PRESERVATION PLAN:**

Consultant Vogel presented the Board with a completed draft copy of the Comprehensive Heritage Preservation Plan for their review. The major elements of the plan include the Introduction, Mission, Vision, Objectives with related Issues and Actions, Historic Contexts and an Inventory of historic properties. He pointed out that a brief history of preservation in the city could be added to the Introduction and a map identifying the designated and eligible landmarks could be added to the Inventory. Mr. Vogel reminded the Board that they have reviewed the individual elements of the plan as they were created and now that the plan is complete, if the Board agrees to adopt the plan, it will be handed over to the planners who are working on the City’s overall Comprehensive Plan. Vogel noted that the HPB will not present the Heritage Preservation Plan to the City Council at this time because the plan actually makes up one of the chapters in the City’s overall Comprehensive Plan which is in the process of being updated.

The Board asked for clarification regarding some items within the plan as they discussed the following eleven objectives:

**Objective #1:** *Prepare and adopt a heritage preservation plan.*

**Objective #2:** *Identify significant heritage resources worthy of consideration in community planning.*

**Objective #3:** *Evaluate heritage resources to determine whether they meet defined criteria of historical, architectural, archaeological, or cultural significance.*

**Objective #4:** *Rezone significant heritage resources as Edina Heritage Landmarks or Landmark Districts.*

**Objective #5:** *Protect heritage landmarks through design review.*

**Objective #6:** *Carry out public facilities maintenance and construction projects in such a manner that significant heritage resources are not destroyed or damaged.*

**Objective #7:** *Encourage voluntary compliance with historic preservation treatment standards.*

**Objective #8:** *Preserve significant heritage resources on city property.*

**Objective #9:** *Provide public education in heritage preservation.*

**Objective #10** *Participate in the federal-state-local government heritage preservation partnership.*

**Objective #11** *Be prepared to respond to disasters involving heritage resources.*

Consultant Vogel pointed out that the Heritage Preservation Plan provides a blue print for the entire city. Because it encompasses the entire city, it is somewhat general in nature. One will find more specifics in the individual plan of treatment adopted for each of the designated properties.

General discussion ensued among the Board about the adoption of the plan. Member Thorpe asked if the history of preservation to be added to the Introduction and the map of designated properties for the Inventory needed to be completed prior to adopting the plan. Consultant Vogel stated that the Board could approve the plan subject to staff signing off on the history of preservation and designation map. Board members agreed that rather than continuing the discussion of the plan to the July meeting, it would be a good idea to move on the plan and allow staff to approve the final details.

Member Thorpe then moved to adopt the Comprehensive Heritage Preservation Plan subject to staff's approval of the history of preservation and the landmark inventory map. Member Rofidal seconded the motion. All voted aye. The motion carried.

**III. SOUTHDALE'S 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION:**

Chairman Kojetin explained that he and Planner Repya attended a meeting at the Edina Historical Society with Rachel Macht, a marketing representative from Southdale regarding the upcoming 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration for the mall. At this time, Southdale is starting to formulate their plans and are open to suggestions and assistance from both the Historical Society and the Heritage Preservation Board.

Currently, they are anticipating kicking off a 50 day celebration on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October to culminate with a gala to coincide with the holiday shopping season.

Kojetin added that he has been in contact with Marty Ruud who was instrumental in the opening festivities for the mall in 1956. Mr. Ruud is retired, still living in Edina and would probably be thrilled to be a part of the anniversary celebration.

Planner Repya stated that she suggested Ms. Macht contact some of the planners of the high school reunions that will be occurring this summer to gain insight into the Southdale memories the Edina grads hold dear.

Consultant Vogel pointed out that Southdale Mall has been identified as one of the Tier II Historic Contexts in the Historic Context Study. Within the study, the goal of identifying and recording historically important art objects and fixtures associated with the mall, as well as exploring preservation alternatives to identifying the mall as an historic preservation site were recognized as priorities. Vogel added that the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary would be an ideal time to target those planning goals.

Board members agreed that they would be pleased to participate in the celebration. Chairman Kojetin promised to keep the Board advised of the progress. No formal action was taken.

**IV. OTHER BUSINESS:**

**A. 6001 Pine Grove Road – Maryhill**

Planner Repya explained that Maryhill, the home at 6001 Pine Grove Road was built by Dr. Paul and Mrs. Mary Carson in 1941, and designed by renowned architect William Gray Purcell. Dr. Carson recently passed away and the home will be going on the market this summer. As a means of introducing the home to the public, tours were offered over three dates in June. The Board received notice of the tours; apparently, none of the members made it to the open house.

Responding to questions regarding whether the property was eligible for landmark designation, Ms. Repya explained that at least ten years ago, the HPB pursued landmark designation of the property, however Dr. and Mrs. Carson chose to list their

property with the Minnesota Land Trust rather than applying the local historic designation. Board members thanked Ms. Repya for the information. No formal action was taken.

**B. Paul Peterson House Tour – 5312 Interlachen Boulevard**

Consultant Vogel explained that as part of his Interlachen Trail research he has identified most of the historic properties abutting the proposed trail on the north side of Interlachen. The Paul Peterson house is one of the historic homes, and because there are so many new members on the Heritage Preservation Board, a tour of this landmark designated home would be a good opportunity to provide insight into the characteristics of a landmark property. Planner Repya offered to contact Paul and Nancy Winter to schedule a time when the Board could meet at their home and discuss its historic significance. She indicated that depending on the Winter's schedule, she would attempt to schedule the tour prior to the July or August meetings. No formal action was taken.

**C. Interlachen Country Club – 6200 Interlachen Boulevard**

Consultant Vogel advised the Board that he attended a meeting with the Manager of the Interlachen Country Club to gain information for the survey of the historic properties abutting the proposed Interlachen Trail. He observed that the club house has been renovated so many times that it would no longer qualify for landmark designation. However, the golf course remains relatively unchanged from the original course designed by Donald Ross in 1911.

Discussion ensued regarding the significance of the course. Mr. Vogel indicated that it is possible that the golf course could be eligible for National Register designation and/or Edina Landmark designation due to the age of the course and the fact that Donald Ross was such a famous golf course designer. Furthermore, Vogel pointed out that the members of club appreciate the history of the original course and may look favorably upon a landmark designation. No formal action was taken.

**D. 2006 State Historic Preservation Conference – Sept. 28 & 29 in Red Wing**

Chairman Kojetin announced that the State Historic Preservation Conference will be held on Thursday and Friday, September 28 and 29 in Red Wing, Minnesota. Because Edina is a Certified Local Government, we are required to send at least one Board member to at least one day of the conference. Kojetin pointed out that in the past, members have attended that Friday sessions and found them very beneficial. Planner Repya explained that the City will pay the registration of Board members wishing to attend and promised to keep the Board advised once the registration opens up.

### **E. Goals for Future Designations**

Chairman Kojetin asked Consultant Vogel about the timeline for future landmark designations. Vogel explained that under the terms of his contract, two designations per year are doable. The process takes about four months per designation and it is best to take on one designation at a time.

Kojetin asked Mr. Vogel to provide the Board with information regarding the cost per designation - pointing out that in the event the Board would choose to undertake four designations per year, he would like to know what the additional cost would be. Mr. Vogel agreed that he would provide that information.

### **F. Street Name Change – W. 56<sup>th</sup> Street to Surrey Lane**

Member Rofidal updated the Board on the progress he and his committee have made relative to preparing the petition for the street name change. He met with the Building Coordinator, Steve Kirchman to report that a survey was mailed to 40 neighbors; a total of 25 Yes responses have been received; 8 No responses; 5 responses not returned; and 2 need more information. Mr. Kirchman indicated that the response data indicated 30% favorable rating. He suggested that the committee work on the 5 households that did not return their survey to see if they were in favor, thus increasing the current 30% favorable rating. Mr. Kirchman also indicated that it would be helpful if the committee received an endorsement from the Historical Society and the Heritage Preservation Board.

Addressing the question about the concerns of the households that voted No, Member Rofidal stated that some people wondered if their mortgage or deed would have to be changed – the answer is no; others were concerned about the disruption with the post office. However, he discovered that the post office will deliver to both street addresses for a 1 year period of time.

Member Scherer observed that because West 56<sup>th</sup> Street runs intermittently from France Avenue on the east side of Edina to Hansen Road on the west side, it can be very confusing when trying to find an address if one is not familiar with the house numbering system.

A brief discussion ensued among the Board. Member Blemaster then moved that the Heritage Preservation Board provide Mr. Rofidal and his committee with a resolution supporting the name change of their street from West 56<sup>th</sup> Street to Surrey Lane in keeping with the developer's original plan to provide English names for the streets in the neighborhood. Member Scherer seconded the motion. All voted aye. The motion carried.

V. **NEXT MEETING DATE:** - July 11<sup>th</sup> to be rescheduled

Chairman Kojetin announced that the next regularly scheduled meeting on July 11<sup>th</sup> falls on the evening of the Annual Braemar Inspection Tour. He asked that the meeting be rescheduled to the next evening, Wednesday, July 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Board members agreed that change of date to July 12<sup>th</sup> would work for them. No formal action was taken.

VI. **ADJOURNMENT:** 9:00 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

*Joyce Repya*