

KANSAS CITY, KANSAS LANDMARKS COMMISSION
May 2, 2022
Minutes

The Kansas City, Kansas Landmarks Commission (members were present via Zoom) met in regular session (via Zoom Meeting and the Commission Chamber was open for in-person attendance) on Monday, May 2, 2022, at 6:10 p.m., with the following members present: Mr. David Meditz, Chairman Presiding, Mr. Murrel Bland, Mr. Hank Chamberlain, Mr. Stephen Craddock, Mr. Loren Taylor, Ms. Micki Welcome-Hill and Mr. Charles Van Middlesworth (Absent: Altevogt, Easterwood, French and Schraeder). Mr. Gunnar H. Hand, AICP, Director of Planning (Commission Chamber), Ms. Emma Dambek, Historic Preservation Vista, and Mr. Daniel Kuhn, Assistant Counsel, were also present.

Chairman Meditz called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. (34:00)

Application starts at 34:49:

HISTORIC DESIGNATION APPLICATION HD2022-002 – JENNIFER

MILLS/PRESIDENT OF HISTORIC WESTHEIGHT – SYNOPSIS: Historic District Designation for Historic Westheight Manor, bounded by Wood Avenue and Everett Avenue on the North; North 18th Street on the East, State Avenue on the South; and North 22nd Street and North 25th Street on the West, listed on the National Register of Historic Places (1975 and District expanded in 1982) and the Register of Historic Kansas Places.

Chairman Meditz asked if any members had contact to disclose concerning this case. (No one responded in the affirmative).

Present in Support:

Jennifer Mills, applicant, 1508 North 21st Street, Kansas City, Kansas 66102
Rick Yarnell, 2424 Nebraska Avenue, Kansas City, Kansas 66102
Bruce Erickson, 1307 Hoel Parkway, Kansas City, Kansas 66102
Gordon Criswell, 2221 Nebraska Avenue, Kansas City, Kansas 66102
Ann Bridgewater, 1513 North 18th Street, Kansas City, Kansas 66102
Matt Hentges, 2010 Washington Boulevard, Kansas City, Kansas 66102

Present in Opposition:

No one appeared

Staff Recommendation Starts at 49:34: Planning Director Hand stated that the boundaries would be the same as the State and Federal Historic designations. He stated that this district meets the local ordinance requirements. Director Hand stated that when the Landmarks ordinance was rewritten and approved in December of 2021,

the Landmarks Commission was required to review any permit for permitted work for the exterior. He further stated that the Kansas State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) reviews both interior and exterior work for State and Federally designated properties. It is the State and Federal designations that allow for certain tax credits. He stated that Staff has been working with the Building Inspection Division and most of the applications are coming from stop work orders and/or building permits being pulled before they realize the property is in Historic District. Director Hand stated that he believes Staff has been coordinating with Building Inspection to make this a more fluid process for everyone. Staff recommends approval of this designation.

Motion and Vote Starts at 53:30:

On motion by Ms. Welcome-Hill, seconded by Mr. Bland, the Landmarks Commission voted as follows to recommend **APPROVAL of Historic Designation Application HD2022- 002:**

Altevogt:	Not Present
Bland:	Aye
Chamberlain	Aye
Craddock:	Aye
Easterwood:	Not Present
French:	Not Present
Hill	Aye
Meditz:	Chairman
Schraeder:	Not Present
Taylor:	Aye
Van Middlesworth:	Aye

Motion to recommend **APPROVAL Passed:** 6 to 0

Downtown Historic and Downtown Churches Multiple Listing Update (Survey Site Tour Debrief) Starts at 56:05 – Planning Director Hand stated that Polis Cultural Planning was hired for this project. He stated that the survey is nearing completion for the Downtown KCK Commercial District, and they have now begun work on a broader geographic area for the historic churches in the Downtown KCK. The work should be finalized by the July Landmarks Commission. Ms. Emma Dambek is working on the correct list of property owners as requested from the Landmarks Commission at the last meeting. He further stated that there was a cyber attack at the Unified Government two (2) weeks ago and the server has been down since that time. The list that she was working on is on the server, so she had to start this task over. As soon as the list is developed, Staff will forward it to the Landmarks Commission and so that outreach work with the Outreach Subcommittee can begin.

Reports Start at 58:30:

Update from Outreach Subcommittee – Chairman Schraeder was not present to give his report.

Planning Director's Report:

1. CLG/SHPO Agreement – Director Hand stated Staff is waiting for all the resumes from the Landmarks Commission. Staff will then start the process of updating the Certified Local Government (CLG) agreement with SHPO. At that time, SHPO and Staff will discuss the permits that can be reviewed at the Unified Government level without SHPO oversight.
2. HPF Grant Funds - Director Hand stated that Staff submitted an application to SHPO for a City-Wide Historic Preservation Plan last month. A decision is expected in mid-summer. He will attend the Neighborhood and Community Development Subcommittee on May 9, 2022 to request approval to pursue said grant.
3. Historic Preservation Month (May 26, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.) Board of Commissioners Presentation – Director Hand went through the draft presentation with the Commission (copy is part of this Zoom meeting.) Director Hand stated that he will send the updated presentation from comments at this meeting to the Commission tomorrow.

Old Business Starts at 1:20:50:

1. Sauer Castle Update – Director Hand stated there is no update this month.

New Business:

1. Commissioner Chamberlain asked if there is an opportunity for the Quindaro Ruins to be cleaned up and preserved. He had heard that there was some grant monies available. Director Hand stated that he can follow-up with the Board made up of Unified Government and AME Church representatives that have been tasked with this project. Also, Ms. Dambek had been working with the Vernon School/Museum on a Preservation Grant. As part of the Northeast KCK Heritage Trail planning process that is three-fourths (3/4ths) completed, which will design a route for a heritage trail between Kaw Point and Quindaro Town Site, Staff is trying to be very intentional on how the termini at the Quindaro Townsite is addressed. Staff has been trying to bring some key people to the table to discuss the Heritage Trail.
2. Chairman Meditz stated that Secretary Parker sent out information on NAPC Training “Making your LG Presentation Program More Equitable” on May 20, 2022. He encouraged the members to attend.

Next Meeting – June 6, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.