

**CITY OF NEWPORT
HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MAY 9, 2018
REGULAR MEETING**

The May 9, 2018 regular meeting of the Newport Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) was called to order by Vice Chairperson Beverly Bartl at 5:00 p.m. in the council chambers at Newport City Hall.

Roll Call

The following members were present: Fred Leimbeck, Maria Bonilla, and . Brandon Leyde and Joann Bailey were absent.

Also present: Kevin Chapdelaine (city council liaison) and Robert Vogel (staff).

Secretary's report

The draft minutes of the March 21, 2018 meeting were reviewed and approved as mailed.

CLG grant update

Consultant Vogel reported on the progress of the intensive survey of mid-20th century heritage resources, which will wrap up this summer.

Vogel also informed the Commission that he had not yet received word from the state historic preservation office regarding the status of the city's recent grant application (for creating five or six new heritage landmarks).

Red Rock

Consultant Vogel provided a brief overview of the situation with regard to repatriation of the historic Red Rock (Eyah Shah), a designated Newport Heritage Landmark currently located on the grounds of the Newport United Methodist Church. The city's preference is for the sacred boulder to be repatriated to the Mendota Mdewakanton community and relocated to the proposed city park on the Mississippi River at Cedar Lane. Representatives of the church had been invited to meet with the HPC to discuss the process for reaching an agreement on relocation.

Pastor Linda Gesling of the Newport UMC provided a summary of the church's intention to "rematriate" the Red Rock to the Dakota people and shared her thoughts on the city's proposal to keep the medicine stone in Newport. Two members of the church also spoke on the cultural and spiritual values of the Red Rock. The church has not yet made a final decision with regard to relocation.

No action was taken. The HPC will continue to be in contact with the Newport UMC as well as the Mendota Mdewakanton community while the church considers the repatriation matter.

Railroad sesquicentennial

Consultant Vogel reported on his efforts to stimulate community interest in celebrating the 150th anniversary of the opening of the River Division between Saint Paul and Hastings in December, 2019.

Preservation Month

The HPC thanked Maria Bonilla for creating this year's Preservation Month poster.

Haugen award

Because there were no nominations received for the 2018 Betty Haugen Memorial Heritage Preservation Award, the consensus was to not give out the award this year. The Commission agreed to discuss the future of the Haugen award at the next regular meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C. Vogel

Preservation Planning Consultant