

Shadow Report: **Planning Commission by Barb Evans. 4/21/22**

There were two items relating directly to the HPC on the most recent agenda of the Planning Commission. I attended the meeting. I didn't present or speak during the meeting. I was impressed with the depth of understanding demonstrated, augmented well by new Planning Commission member, Jason Menard, who recently served on the HPC. Chair Buckheit led the complicated discussion before the Commission to get clarity and consensus from the group.

The most extensive discussion was about agenda item **#3: Review and Discuss Land Development Code provisions related to City buildings and facilities including initial potential amendments for clarification.**

This is the item thoroughly discussed. They had before them one memo from Ben Martig regarding the conflicting wording in various parts of the LDC. I think that this is the same one presented at our last meeting that had the 4 Options listed and suggested timeline, and included the three DRAFTs presented to us. They also had Revee's research after contacting several neighboring Minnesota cities about how they treat public property and Certificates of Appropriateness as well as their appeal process. In a Supplemental Memo, Ben presented some wording changes to the LDC that the HPC had not yet seen for Planning Commission reaction.

The P.C. also noted that according to the current LDC, it appears that the City is exempt from following the LDC. They expressed concern about that.

A quick summary would be that the P.C. came to some of the same conclusions that we had regarding having the City follow the same process that a private property would be expected to follow. They also thought that specifying instances in which the City could be exempt centering around safety and emergencies would be in order. Ben had given them some wording, but they gave more direction to that, treating it as temporary. They did not come to the same conclusion that we did regarding the appeal process, going on record saying that they thought it should still come to the Planning Commission.

Revee can add to this and lay out next steps. I would encourage you all to read the P.C. minutes when they are posted for their next meeting (typically a week after our meeting) or watch that section of the meeting online.

Item #5 was: Review and Recommendation of the A.W. Norton House (418 College St) as a local Heritage Preservation Site.

Due to the lateness of the time, Alice gave an abbreviated version of her presentation regarding the designation of her house as a Heritage Preservation Site. Alice's presentation and resulting restoration of the Norton House was well received. The P.C. will now go forward with the steps that they need to take to make this official.

An important point was also discussed that our current LDC does not extend protection of the local sites through the HPC. The Planning Commission was surprised by this, as we have been also. This omission can be rectified with LDC language soon to be proposed.

