

Historic Landmarks and Preservation Districts Commission Minutes

February 16, 2017

A meeting of the Louisville Metro Historic Landmarks and Preservation Districts Commission was held on Thursday, February 16, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at Union Station, located at 1000 W. Broadway, Louisville, Kentucky.

Commission Members present:

Jay Stottman

Emily Liu (left at approximately 10:50 a.m.)

Amin Omidy

Joanne Weeter

Tamika Jackson (arrived at approximately 9:18 a.m.)

Robert Kirchdorfer

Milton Haskins Jr.

Reba Doutrick

Chris Hartman (arrived at approximately 9:08 a.m.)

Brandon Coan (left at approximately 10:40 a.m.)

Commission Members absent:

Bob Vice, Chair

Carrye Jones

Roberto Bajandas

Staff Members Present:

Joe Reverman, Planning & Design Assistant Director

Bob Keesaer, Urban Design Supervisor

Joe Haberman, Planning & Design Manager

Cynthia Elmore, Historic Preservation Officer

Savannah Darr, Historic Preservation Specialist

Becky Gorman, Historic Preservation Specialist

Burcum Keeton, Architectural Projects Coordinator

John Carroll, Legal Counsel

Sue Reid, Management Assistant

The following matters were considered:

00:00:06 On a motion by Commissioner Liu, seconded by Commissioner Weeter, Commissioner Jay Stottman was **ELECTED** as **Pro Tem Chair** to preside over today's meeting. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

00:02:03 On a motion by Commissioner Weeter, seconded by Commissioner Haskins, the absences of Commissioner Jones and Chair Vice are **EXCUSED**. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of the January 19, 2017 Historic Landmarks and Preservation Districts Commission meeting.

00:05:35 On a motion by Commissioner Kirchdorfer, seconded by Commissioner Omidy, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, the Louisville Metro Historic Landmarks and Preservation Districts Commission does hereby **APPROVE** the minutes of the meeting conducted on January 19, 2017.

The vote was as follows:

Yes: Commissioners Weeter, Doutrick, Hartman, Kirchdorfer, Liu, Haskins, Omidy, Jackson, Coan, and Pro Tem Chair Stottman

Absent: Commissioners Jones, Bajandas, and Chair Vice

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NEW BUSINESS

Welcome_History_Union_Station

Request:	Welcome Intro. - History and Update on Union Station
Project Name:	Welcome Intro. - History and Update on Union Station
Jurisdiction:	Louisville Metro Government
Case Manager:	Bob Keesaer

An audio recording of the Historic Landmarks and Preservation Districts Commission meeting related to this case is available on the Planning & Design Services website, or you may contact the Customer Service staff to obtain a copy.

Agency testimony:

00:06:37 Bob Keesaer welcomed everyone and provided a brief history on Union Station. Mr. Keesaer showed a Powerpoint presentation and highlighted some interesting facts regarding Union Station's operation and notable visitors to arrive in Louisville through Union Station (see recording for detailed presentation).

NOTE: This agenda item was for information purposes only; therefore, no vote or action was taken.

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BUSINESS SESSION

ARC's_Report_On_Activity

Request: ARC's report on activity - ARC Chairs or
Representatives
Project Name: ARC's report on activity
Jurisdiction: Louisville Metro Government
Case Manager: Bob Keesaer

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Summary of testimony:

00:14:46 Herb Fink provided an update on activities and issues in the Old Louisville Historic Preservation District. Mr. Fink stated that Old Louisville had become the first Preservation District in 1973. Mr. Fink stated that in October of 2016 the APA named Old Louisville one of five great neighborhoods nationally. Mr. Fink stated that contributing factors were the St. James Art Show, the huge collection of Victorian homes, that it is a Historic Preservation District, and the diversity of persons and activities.

Mr. Fink stated the Filson Historic Society has finished their project at Third and Ormsby. Mr. Fink stated one of the things the District is still working on is vacant and deteriorated buildings. Mr. Fink passed around photos of some of the vacant buildings in Old Louisville, including one that has been vacant for fifteen to twenty years which was recently sold to a developer and is now being renovated. Mr. Fink stated that even the worst are still salvageable. Mr. Fink stated they occasionally have fires in Old Louisville, but even after a fire they would prefer to not have the building removed. Mr. Fink stated another thing that is a detriment in their neighborhood and other neighborhoods is graffiti. Mr. Fink stated there are many new developments in the area that are affecting their neighborhood. Mr. Fink stated there is concern in regard to Memorial Park; Mr. Fink stated there are some proposals floating around to turn a great deal of that into a parking lot. Mr. Fink passed out flyers regarding tree planting this Saturday and next Saturday; he stated they are going to be planting 86 trees up and down Sixth Street between Breckenridge and Park Avenue. Mr. Fink stated they will be having the Central Park Improvement Day on April 8th (see recording for detailed presentation).

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BUSINESS SESSION

ARC's_Report_On_Activity

00:28:00 Mike Gross provided an update on activities and issues in the Cherokee Triangle Historic Preservation District. Mr. Gross stated every year there seems to be a theme that they deal with and this past year it was pretty much retaining walls. Mr. Gross stated they've dealt with a couple of vacant and abandoned properties. Mr. Gross stated Christopher and Monica have been working on a flyer to be distributed to everyone in the neighborhood which outlines the types of buildings in the neighborhood and the requirements of the ARC living in a Preservation District and it's spelled out nice and cleanly the process that people have to go through and what is allowed without a Certificate of Appropriateness and what requires a Certificate of Appropriateness and what are approved changes to your historic structure. Christopher Quirk stated it's their effort to stop the after-the-fact applications. Mr. Quirk stated it's sort of a cheat sheet for the big items that they see as an ARC (see recording for detailed presentation).

00:33:47 Lindsey Stoughton spoke on behalf of the Butchertown ARC. Ms. Stoughton stated people don't know they're in a Historic District in Butchertown. Ms. Stoughton stated they have a lot of change over, a lot of renters and developers. Ms. Stoughton stated the developers kind of know but they're kind of scared of the process. Ms. Stoughton stated she thinks the flyer idea is fantastic and she would like to have a chance to look at theirs (see recording for detailed presentation).

00:35:48 Phil Samuel spoke on behalf of the Clifton ARC. Mr. Samuel stated there are two other members of the Clifton ARC present today, Jessica Murphy and Michelle Warner. Mr. Samuel stated he was part of the Clifton Guidelines Review Task Force. Mr. Samuel stated he would like to thank Herb Fink, Scott Kremer, Jay Stottman and Kevin McAdams. Mr. Samuel stated that four decades ago as Louisville created its first Preservation District it also created the original design guidelines, the so called "Standard Guidelines". Mr. Samuel stated the Clifton Guidelines have been published on the Metro website since November, 2016. Mr. Samuel stated he hopes everyone finds the Clifton Guidelines as useful and constructive for the preservation of the community at large. Michelle Warner thanked those who worked on the guidelines for three years. Ms. Warner stated they have had a lot of small projects. Commissioner Stottman stated the process of getting the guidelines done is important because it helped educate a lot of people about what Landmarks does and why there are design guidelines. Commissioner Stottman stated Clifton had some innovative ideas about getting the message out about being a Landmark District and what that means (see recording for detailed presentation).

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BUSINESS SESSION

ARC's_Report_On_Activity

00:46:27 Stephen Peterson spoke on behalf of the Limerick ARC. Mr. Peterson stated he has been a resident of the Limerick neighborhood since May of 2010, and when he moved into his home he had no clue he was in an Architectural Review District or that his house was listed on the National Registry of Historic Places, so when he found out he started looking around a little more and doing some digging and got very fascinated with it, and here he is now the Chair of the Limerick ARC. Mr. Peterson stated getting the message out is important. Mr. Peterson stated that some of the issues of Old Louisville are also issues in Limerick. Mr. Peterson stated last year in one block of Seventh Street nine of eighteen properties were vacant or abandoned. He stated that two of those have recently sold. Mr. Peterson stated Limerick is centered around St. Louis Bertrand Church, which is also a Landmark. Mr. Peterson stated that graffiti is a big problem. Mr. Peterson stated he agrees there needs to be better outreach, but not only to residents but with utilities and their subcontractors as well (see recording for detailed presentation).

00:53:18 There were no representatives available for the Parkland ARC or West Main Street ARC.

00:54:16 Herb Shulhafer spoke on behalf of the Individual Landmarks ARC. Mr. Shulhafer stated they had two reviews last year; the Belknap School which is off of Bardstown Road and most recently Colonial Gardens. Mr. Shulhafer stated he thinks landmarking is a good protection. Commissioner Stottman stated Colonial Gardens was a very contentious case, but he hopes people will see that it was a good thing to landmark that building (see recording for detailed presentation).

NOTE: This agenda item was for information purposes only; therefore, no vote or action was taken.

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BUSINESS SESSION LMC_Annual_Report

Request: Landmarks Commission Annual Report
Project Name: Landmarks Commission Annual Report
Jurisdiction: Louisville Metro Government
Case Manager: Bob Keesaer - Cynthia Johnson

An audio recording of the Historic Landmarks and Preservation Districts Commission meeting related to this case is available on the Planning & Design Services website, or you may contact the Customer Service staff to obtain a copy.

Agency testimony:

01:00:23 Bob Keesaer reviewed the Historic Landmarks and Preservation Districts Commission Annual Report. Mr. Keesaer acknowledged the contributions of Councilman Tom Owen. Mr. Keesaer stated that 2016 was a very busy year, with 309 cases compared to 2009 when there were 178. Mr. Keesaer stated the number of cases have been increasing almost every year, with a twelve percent increase from 2015 to 2016. Mr. Keesaer reviewed a breakdown of activity of the ARC's. Mr. Keesaer recognized Savannah Darr who won the 2016 Barbara Hulette Excellence in Young Preservationist Award. Mr. Keesaer reviewed additional topics from the Annual Report, including Demolition by Neglect, The Butchertown Project, Public Outreach, Historic Preservation & Sustainability, and Core Staff Activity (see recording for detailed presentation).

01:09:36 Cynthia Elmore (Johnson) reviewed the Design Guideline Update which was initiated last year. Ms. Elmore reviewed the work of the Historic Preservation Advisory Task Force which was established last May by Mayor Fischer to work on preservation issues. Commissioner Weeter asked about an update on the Padgett House. Commissioner Weeter stated she is very worried about losing that building if something isn't done very soon to at least secure the roof. Ms. Elmore stated she had not heard an update recently. Commissioner Weeter stated she sees this as a classic case of Demolition by Neglect. Commissioner Weeter suggested at the next Landmarks Commission meeting input from the developer be requested as well as the State Preservation Office and Code Officials if that's appropriate (see recording for detailed presentation).

01:21:13 On a motion by Commissioner Weeter, seconded by Commissioner Omidy, the following resolution was adopted:

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BUSINESS SESSION LMC_Annual_Report

RESOLVED, the Louisville Metro Historic Landmarks and Preservation Districts Commission does hereby **APPROVE** the 2016 Louisville Metro Historic Landmarks and Preservation Districts Commission Annual Report as presented. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

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BUSINESS SESSION PDS_Annual_Update

Request:	Office of Planning & Design Services Annual Update
Project Name:	Office of Planning & Design Services Annual Update
Jurisdiction:	Louisville Metro Government
Case Manager:	Joe Haberman

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Agency testimony:

01:23:37 Joe Haberman, Planning Manager, reviewed the Office of Planning & Design Services Annual Update and showed a Powerpoint presentation. Mr. Haberman reviewed services provided by Planning & Design Services. Commissioner Liu introduced Joe Reverman, Assistant Director of Planning & Design Services. Mr. Haberman responded to questions regarding the Overlay Districts process and guidelines as well as continuing education opportunities for 2017 (see recording for detailed presentation).

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BUSINESS SESSION

Update_On_ARC_Appts.

Request:	Update on ARC Appointments
Project Name:	Update on ARC Appointments
Jurisdiction:	Louisville Metro Government
Case Manager:	Joe Haberman

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Agency testimony:

01:35:00 Joe Haberman stated Metro Council placed terms on ARC appointments. Mr. Haberman reviewed the positions that are or will be vacant and briefly reviewed the process for applying and being appointed to an ARC (see recording for detailed presentation).

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01:46:01 Meeting was recessed.

01:47:00 Meeting was reconvened.

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BUSINESS SESSION

Open_Discussion_Items

Request:	Open Discussion Items- ARC and LMC members
Project Name:	Open Discussion items- ARC and LMC members
Jurisdiction:	Louisville Metro Government
Case Manager:	Bob Keesaer

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Summary of testimony:

01:47:05 Commissioners and meeting attendees discussed various items including after-the-fact COA's, the recent Landmarks Commission decision which was overturned by Louisville Metro Council (Powell-Smith house) and enforcement issues (see recording for detailed presentation).

NOTE: This agenda item was Open Discussion only; therefore, no vote or action was taken.

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The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:50 a.m.

Chairman

Division Director