

# **Design and Landmarks Committee**

## **Meeting Notes**

### **Wednesday, April 28, 2010**

#### **Members Present**

Becky Ives, Chair  
Patty Wisner  
Greg "Frank" Hemer  
Sarah Knaup

#### **Members Absent**

None

#### **Staff Present**

Li Alligood, Assistant Planner (DLC Liaison)

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Chair Becky Ives** called the Design and Landmarks Committee (DLC) meeting to order at 6:42 p.m.

### **2. MEETING NOTES**

a. **March 9, 2010** (joint meeting with the Planning Commission)

b. **March 24, 2010**

**DLC Member Greg Hemer moved to approve the March 9, 2010, and March 24, 2010, DLC meeting minutes as presented. DLC Member Sarah Knaup seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.**

### **3. INFORMATION ITEMS**

#### **a. Downtown project coordination**

**Li Alligood, Assistant Planner**, provided an overview of various projects underway in downtown Milwaukee.

- The South Downtown Concept Plan had been completed, and the "Group of 9" had disbanded. City Council had recently approved a contract for Walker Macy, the consultants that would work on the second phase, which would be the planning phase.
- A South Downtown Steering Committee would be formed and a DLC representative would be on the committee. She asked the Committee to consider which member would like to serve on the Steering Committee.
- Although it was a good idea for all of the groups working downtown to meet with each other, there was a question of who should convene that meeting. Many of the groups were working independently and City staff were not involved. The role of the DLC was to review applications that came before them rather than to plan events or act as a convener for downtown groups, though members may find that getting involved with other groups could satisfy their desire to do more "bricks and mortar" types of projects.
- Ms. Alligood suggested that DLC members attend meetings of individual groups if they were interested in finding out what the groups were working on.

**The Committee** discussed various activities downtown, including the Milwaukie Farmers Market and Main Street Milwaukie.

They suggested that the DLC should have an informational booth at the Farmers Market to show images of historic Milwaukie and to recruit new members. The City currently staffed a booth at the Milwaukie Farmers Market and the Committee could possibly share that booth.

#### **4. WORKSESSION ITEMS**

##### **a. Historic properties presentation**

**DLC Member Patty Wisner** presented a PowerPoint slide show that described the properties on the City's Historic Inventory. The presentation will be used as an educational tool and to orient new DLC members. She planned to have it posted on the City's web site to provide information about Milwaukie's treasures.

**The Committee** suggested that it would be a useful tool to create interest in Milwaukie's historic properties.

##### **b. Milwaukie Character discussion**

**Ms. Alligood** presented an overview of the discussion from the March 24, 2010, meeting and reviewed the draft definition of "Milwaukie Character" for committee comment.

"Milwaukie is a historic, family-oriented small town with a wealth of natural and cultural features. It is the gateway between Portland and rural Clackamas County, and shares amenities with each. The historic downtown is compact, pedestrian-friendly, and people-oriented. An eclectic collection of architectural styles reflect periods of prosperity, and the numerous brick, stone, stucco, and wood buildings reflect the local materials. The city's streams, springs, and lakes are its defining landscape features, as is its location on the Willamette River. The residents enjoy access to nature and the numerous green spaces in the downtown area. The community is proud of its history and excited about its future, and has high expectations for the quality and design of new development in downtown Milwaukie."

**The Committee** generally agreed that the definition described what they felt about Milwaukie and would like to see happen there.

**Ms. Wisner** suggested the definition also include a reference to capitalizing on the creativity of local and regional residents.

**The Committee** discussed how to apply the Milwaukie Character guidelines, and what types of questions they could ask while reviewing an application for compliance with the design guidelines. They agreed that they wanted to encourage designs that:

- Respected the views of downtown and allowed people inside the building to enjoy them.
- Complemented their immediate natural surroundings.
- Used colors that harmonized with the surrounding structures and natural amenities.
- Were well-executed, innovative, functional, and showed a creative spirit.

## 5. APPLICATION REVIEW ITEMS—NONE

## 6. OTHER BUSINESS

### a. Vice Chair elections

**Mr. Hemer nominated Ms. Wisner for the position of Vice Chair. Ms. Wisner accepted the nomination. Ms. Knaup seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

### b. Next meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, May 26.

**Chair Ives** requested that an agenda item be added to the May 26 meeting to allow the Committee to review images of buildings and designs that appealed to them.

**Ms. Alligood** asked the Committee to continue to take photos of buildings and details that reflect Milwaukie Character for the May meeting.

### c. E-mail review of meeting minutes

**Ms. Alligood** asked if the Committee wanted to continue to receive meeting minutes by e-mail prior to their meetings. **The Committee** asked that the practice continue.

### d. Riverfront Park hearing

**Ms. Alligood** announced that the Planning Commission would be holding a public hearing on the Riverfront Park application on May 11. The Committee recommended the application for Planning Commission approval at its November 4, 2009, meeting.

She requested that a member of the DLC attend the hearing in order to answer any questions the Planning Commission had about the Committee's recommendation, and suggested that all members attend the hearing in order to observe how the Planning Commission reviewed the DLC recommendation.

## 7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.



---

Becky Ives, Chair