

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Approved 10/28/14

MINUTES

WEST CHICAGO HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING

SEPTEMBER 16, 2014, 7:00 P.M.

Members Present:

Janet Hale
Richard Vigsnes
Cheryl Waterman
Blake Kennedy
Rev. Bill Andrews
Phillip Smith

Staff:

Jeff Harris
Keith E. Letsche

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and establishment of a Quorum.

A quorum was established. The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m.

2. Public Hearing – Landmark Nomination for St. Mary's Church

Applicants Robert and Annamarie Kirchhoff were sworn in. They used a presentation for their case. After the presentation, Jeff Harris proceeded to provide background information to the application. Mr. Harris then read a lead by Anthony Rubano, Preservation Services Division of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency in support of the application.

A member of the audience, Sarah Bridgeforth, stepped forth and expressed her concern about the use of the school building. Other members of the audience stepped forward with questions related to the applicants all of whom were against the application. These included Susan Stoughton, Philip Weibler, Elizabeth Simmons Trimble, and Ron Gonzalez.

With no further questions, Mr. Harris read aloud letters the City of West Chicago had received in opposition to the application, including Father John Balluff, Christopher J. Nye, Director of Buildings and Properties at the Diocese of Joliet, Arlene Clark, and Mark and Linda Helminiak.

Father John Balluff was then sworn in to speak for the church, in opposition to the application. With no questions related towards the opposition, Chairman Hale opened the public hearing to the audience to participate with their comments. Sworn in participants included Ron Gonzalez, Thomas Ritchie, Julieta Alcantar Garcia, Vincente Fernandez, Joe McAleer, Karina Villa, Diane Cabrera, Lara Hernandez Corcoron, Maria Perez, Nicole Billapando, and Maria Hernandez. All comments were in opposition to the

application.

Upon the commencement of the participant comments, Chairman Hale stated that the commission will take all the information given into consideration and provide a recommendation within thirty (30) days of the commencement of the public hearing. A motion to close the public hearing was made by Commissioner Andrews and seconded by Commissioner Vigsnes. The motion was passed by an all aye vote. The public hearing was closed at 8:49 p.m.

3. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Kennedy and seconded by Commissioner Waterman. The motion passed with an all aye vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.