

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Approved 10/28/14

MINUTES

WEST CHICAGO HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING

OCTOBER 6, 2014, 7:30 P.M.

SPECIAL MEETING

Members Present:

Janet Hale
Richard Vigsnes
Cheryl Waterman
Blake Kennedy
Phillip Smith

Members Absent:

Rev. Bill Andrews

Staff:

John Said
Jeff Harris

Guests:

None

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

A quorum was established. The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m.

2. Consideration of the Landmark Nomination of St. Mary's Catholic Church

The meeting began with each commissioner stating which buildings should be considered for landmark status. Much of the deliberation was between whether just the church itself should receive the status, or if the original 1922 school building deserved it, too.

Commissioners Vigsnes and Waterman were in favor of just the church, while Commissioners Kennedy and Smith were in favor of both the church and the school building. None of the commissioners believe the entire church campus was landmark worthy. Commissioner Hale proposed a notion that if the school building was torn down, the City could be interested in reusing the façade bricks elsewhere. The Commission then went through the seven (7) standards in Section 4-92 of the City Code. In relation to the church, the commission believed that standards 1, 2, 4, 6, and 7 were significant, while number 5 was unknown, and number 3 was not applicable. A motion to nominate St. Mary's Church for landmark status was made by Commissioner Vigsnes and seconded by Commissioner Waterman. The motion carried with an all aye vote.

The Commission then evaluated the 1922 school building under these same Standards. Commissioner Smith felt that it held historical significance, but Commissioners Vigsnes,

475 Main Street
West Chicago, Illinois
60185

T (630) 293-2200
F (630) 293-3028
www.westchicago.org

Ruben Pineda
MAYOR
Nancy M. Smith
CITY CLERK

Michael L. Guttman
CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Waterman, and Kennedy felt it did not. The Commission could not come to a consensus on standards 1 and 4. The Commission agreed on standards 6 and 7; however there was not enough significance based on these two standards alone. Standards 2, 3, and 5 were unknown. A motion to nominate the 1922 school building for landmark status was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Hale. The motion failed by a (2-3) vote with Commissioners Vigsnes, Waterman, and Kennedy voting against the motion and Commissioners Hale and Smith in favor of the motion.

A motion to designate the balance of the campus for landmark status was made by Commissioner Waterman and seconded by Commissioner Vigsnes. The motion failed with an all nay vote. The next meeting on October 7, 2014 will take place to compose a letter to City Council stating the Commissions' recommendation for the landmark nomination of the St. Mary's Catholic Church Campus.

3. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Kennedy and seconded by Commissioner Smith. The motion passed with an all aye vote. The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 p.m.