

Hamline University Neighborhood Advisory Committee (HUNAC) Committee Meeting

Monday, September 18, 2017

6:30– 8:30pm *Giddens Learning Center, Hamline University*

HUNAC Members Present: Mark Berkson (Hamline University), Karen Chaput (At Large Community Member), Krista Finstad Hanson (At Large Community Member), Robin Hemenway (Historic Hamline Village), Al Ickler (Hamline Church), Amy Ireland (Hamline Church), Dan Loritz (Hamline University), Paige Natzke (Hamline Undergraduate Student Congress), Roy Neal (Historic Hamline Village), Gail Nosek (Hamline University), Michael Jon Olson (Hamline Midway Coalition), Steve Samuelson (Hamline Midway Coalition).

HUNAC Members Absent: Samantha Henningson (City of St. Paul), Jessica Kopp (At Large Community Member).

Guests

City of St. Paul Historic Preservation Commission: Christine Boulware, Joseph H. Peroutka

Summit Envirosolutions: Sarah Nelson (Architectural Historian), Marjorie Pearson (Sr. Architectural Historian/Project Dir for Hamline Midway Historic Survey), Brian McMahon (Architect)

Hamline Church: Kim McKeage, Mary Kay Olson.

Meeting Agenda:

- 1) **Welcome / Introductions**
- 2) **Introduction of Dan Loritz joining HUNAC on behalf of President Miller**
- 3) **Review / approval of May and July meeting minutes**
- 4) **Hamline Church "Sustainability Design Team" idea**
- 5) **Member Updates**
- 6) **Discussion / Planning for upcoming meeting with Russ Stark**
- 7) **Member Updates**

Welcome/Introductions

Introduction of Dan Loritz joining HUNAC on behalf of President Miller

Hamline University President Fayneese Miller has asked Vice President Emeritus Dan Loritz to join HUNAC on her behalf and report directly back to her on HUNAC's work and concerns. Dan said he was happy to serve in this capacity.

During his time as VP of Development at Hamline, Dan served in community relations and government relations roles, including as Hamline's representative on the Hamline Midway Coalition for 20 years. He was the longest serving member in the coalition's history when he stepped down in 2013. Before coming to Hamline, Loritz held leadership roles in state government for 15 years and was Governor Rudy Perpich's director of governmental relations and deputy chief of staff. Dan is a former board member of The Institute for Minnesota Archaeology and said he has a deep interest in the historical significance of Hamline and the Hamline Midway neighborhood. He is a 1969 graduate from Hamline.

Review / approval of May and July meeting minutes

Al Ickler (Hamline Church) suggested adding Lowell Bromander's list of Hamline-owned homes to the July meeting minutes. Gail Nosek (Hamline University) said she would do so. May and July meeting minutes were then approved. Gail will add to the Hamline website.

Hamline-Midway Historic Survey

Marjorie Pearson (Sr. Architectural Historian/Project Dir for Hamline Midway Historic Survey) presented about the Reconnaissance Level Survey process which should unfold between September 2017- June 30, 2018. (Grant paperwork needs to be officially signed)

*Information below taken from powerpoint presentation.

(Powerpoint presentation and other documents available on Hamline University's neighborhood webpage under the HUNAC meeting notes for September 2017).

This Reconnaissance Level Survey is being carried out under a Certified Local Government Grant to the City of Saint Paul/Community Planning and Economic Development. Last survey of the Hamline Midway Neighborhood was 35 years ago.

"The intention is to collect enough data to provide a general understanding of the built environment of an area. The survey is intended to characterize the properties in relation to historic contexts and makes recommendations for additional intensive survey work."- Heritage Preservation Dept Manual

Historic contexts that pertain to the Hamline Midway area:

Residential Real Estate Development, 1880-1950

Churches, Synagogues, and Religious Buildings, 1849-1950

Neighborhood Commercial Centers, 1874-1960

Transportation Corridors, 1857-1950

Contexts and resource types:

St. Paul Parks, Parkways, and Cultural Landscapes
Post World War II Development, Modernism, and Historic Preservation
Immigrant and Ethnic Communities
Multiple Housing
Schools
Early Gas Stations
Industrial Buildings

Survey Goals

The intent of the survey is to identify individual properties and areas of the neighborhood that are related to the historic contexts and resource types and have the potential to be designated as St. Paul Heritage Preservation sites and/or listed on the National Register of Historic Places after intensive survey and detailed research.

Project Tasks include:

- *Research: gather historical information for historic contexts (Sept – Dec 2017)
- *Field Survey: record location and property information; photograph properties; assess integrity. All properties in District 11 will be viewed, but not all will be inventoried. (Oct – Nov 2017)
- *Compare existing properties to those previously inventoried in survey area
- *Prepare new and updated inventory forms for properties that meet inventory criteria. The identified properties will be derived from information in the historic contexts. The inventory form includes a brief description of the property and information about the potential for significance (Dec 2017 – March 2018)
- *Prepare a survey report (Jan – April 2018)

The survey report includes:

- *Historic context narratives
- *Contemporary and historic photographs
- *Maps
- *Description of historic property types and eligibility criteria (registration requirements); tables of inventoried properties
- *Recommendations of properties of interest for potential listing and/or local designation based on intensive level survey
- *Recommendation of historic district (s) for potential listing and/or local designation based on intensive level survey

Two community meetings will be held as part of this process- possibly in October and May. The survey team said it would be helpful if HUNAC could help facilitate that. They would also like to meet with HUNAC again when the survey is in draft form. Potential for Hamline students to help with the survey if it could be funded through a Career Development Center grant and if the students had some previous training that would be helpful to the survey team.

Neighbors are encouraged to share their historic photos on the neighborhood Facebook page so the survey team can see them and deem if they are useful to the process.

Contact info for survey team members:

Marjorie Pearson, Ph.D., mpearson@summite.com, 651-271-6353

Sara Nelson, snelson@summite.com, 952-201-4404

Brian McMahon, brianmcmahonco@gmail.com, 651-399-7221

Hamline Church "Sustainability Design Team" idea

Mary Kay Olson (Hamline Church building admin) presented on the idea of a natural playground in a currently underutilized space behind the church and next to the SPROUT garden on a portion of land that is currently owned by the university.

This is part of the church's continual sustainability and neighborhood engagement efforts and builds on the already successful church/university/neighborhood collaboration of the SPROUT garden. Students Proposing Real Options for Underutilized Territory (SPROUT) repurposed an urban piece of land and gives university students the opportunity to work in the garden, teaches younger kids at the church about growing healthy food, and provides fresh veggies each summer which are donated to the Hamline Elders.

The natural play area would allow kids growing up in an urban area another way to engage with the natural environment. The vision is that this would be open to and used by kids from the church's Sunday school program and day care, Hamline elementary, and possibly child development staff, faculty, and students at Hamline University. The play area could include trees, native plants, logs for kids to climb on, water feature, table with sawed branches to be used imaginatively (plates/saucers, wheels etc).

The church is also exploring the idea of a pocket park in a green area just southeast of the church. The intent would be to add more natural vegetation and features (trees, shrubs, rain garden etc) and benches in order to have a place where the community can connect, rest, and play. There would be no permanent structures so the area would be easily changeable.

Dan Loritz (Hamline University) said the university would be more than happy to be involved in either of the projects. He and Mary Kay will connect and talk about next steps.

Discussion / Planning for upcoming meeting with Russ Stark

With Samantha (City of St. Paul) on maternity leave the question was raised about who will take her place on HUNAC in the interim. This can be one of the questions asked at the October 3rd meeting with the city, HHV, and Hamline University regarding the code report on 1549 Minnehaha. Kelly Bauer is the person filling in for Samantha at that meeting.

Dan Loritz (Hamline University) has a meeting scheduled with St. Paul Councilmember Russ Stark and Dan will see if he's available to come to the HUNAC meeting in October or November.

MEMBER UPDATES

Al Ickler (Hamline Church) mentioned that the HUNAC charter outlines that memberships are on two-year terms and that time period is about to come up.

Krista Finstad Hanson (Community Member at Large) asked about the status of Hamline University's campus master plan/strategic plan. Dan Loritz (Hamline University) said that planning is at the beginning states and that President Miller told him the neighborhood will have no surprises and that his role is to increase engagement with HUNAC.

Krista Finstad Hanson (Community Member at Large) received a legacy grant from the MN Historical Society to do research on Japanese resettlement to St. Paul after being released from the internment campus. She said the University of Minnesota would not accept those Japanese students, but that institutions like Hamline and Macalester did. The grant is done in December and Krista would like to pass on the information she has collected to someone at Hamline. Mark Berkson and Gail Nosek (Hamline University) said they would be able to get her in touch with a number of people who would be interested in that info.

Upcoming Neighborhood Events

Hamline Elementary Fall Fest October 7, 2017

<http://www.hamlinemidway.org/fallfestival>

Hamline Alumni Weekend Events October 13-15 (Fall Fest, Pizza Party, Piper Pep Rally, Hamline Marketplace) info available on Hamline website:

<http://everywhere.hamline.edu/s/1545/16/interior.aspx?sid=1545&gid=1&pgid=1026>

Fence Weaving

Training dates will take place on:

September 12, 19, 26 & October 3, 4pm-5:30pm

Work dates are:

October 6, 4-8pm, October 7 & 8, 10am-4pm. Note: Teens will only work up to 20 hours.

<http://www.hamlinemidway.org/weavingcommunity>

Pierce Butler Replanting

Sunday, October 15, 2017 - 9:00am

<http://www.hamlinemidway.org/events/235/pierce-butler-meadows-community-planting-day>

LEAP into St Paul (incoming Hamline first-year students volunteered at more than 30 organizations before their first day of classes on September 5)

Next meeting is Monday, October 16 at 6:30 p.m. at the Hamline Midway Library.