

**CITY OF MILWAUKIE  
DESIGN AND LANDMARKS COMMITTEE  
NOTES  
Milwaukie City Hall  
10722 SE Main St  
Monday, November 14, 2016  
6:30 PM**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Sherry Grau, Chair  
Lauren Loosveldt

**STAFF PRESENT**

Brett Kelper, Associate Planner (staff liaison)

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Scott Jones

**1.0 Call to Order – Procedural Matters**

**Chair Sherry Grau** called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**2.0 Design and Landmarks Committee Notes**

2.1 October 10, 2016

Noting that there was not a quorum to officially approve the October meeting notes, **Chair Grau** asked whether there were any corrections to discuss. There were none, so the notes will be reconsidered for approval at the next meeting.

**3.0 Information Items**

At its last meeting, the committee had asked staff to encourage anyone interested in the open positions on the committee to sit in on the committee meetings. **Associate Planner Brett Kelper** acknowledged the two visitors present, both candidates for the committee. It was not yet clear when formal interviews or committee appointments would happen, but he promised to continue checking in with the City Manager's office for updates in the coming weeks.

**Member Lauren Loosveldt** asked the visitors to introduce themselves and share their backgrounds. **Cynthia Schuster** grew up in Milwaukie, moved away, and has returned. She is an architect with more than 30 years of experience, has a varied project background, and is very familiar with the workings of design review boards and planning commissions. **Michael Corrente** is newer to Milwaukie, having moved to the Portland area two years ago from Eugene and Las Vegas before that. His background is in architecture and landscape architecture, with urban design experience in the context of both of those fields, including teaching and research at the university level and consulting work with his own firm.

**Member Loosveldt** moved to Milwaukie three years ago and works as an architect in downtown Portland, with a strong background in interior design as well. She joined the committee a little less than a year ago and is excited about the potential for and energy around new development opportunities in the community. **Chair Grau** is an Oregonian who spent almost a decade in Arizona before returning in 2010. She moved to Milwaukie in 2012, does affordable housing work with Northwest Housing Alternatives, and has been on the committee for just over three years. She has been impressed and encouraged by the growth and change happening in the city. **Mr. Kelper** is one of four planners for the City who share responsibility for processing permits and land use applications as well as fielding general planning and zoning questions from the public. He served as the staff liaison to the committee for a few years before

Senior Planner Li Alligood took on that role and, although he does not have a background in architecture, design, or historic preservation, he is interested in learning more and has enjoyed returning to work with the group and getting to know the members.

#### **4.0 Audience Participation – None**

#### **5.0 Public Meetings – None**

#### **6.0 Worksession Items**

- 6.1 Downtown Design Guidelines Update, cont. (Milwaukie Character)  
Staff Person: Brett Kelter, Associate Planner

**Mr. Kelter** reopened the ongoing discussion by setting the context for Ms. Schuster and Mr. Corrente, explaining the role of the Downtown Design Guidelines in shaping development downtown and the part the committee plays. He explained the group's current effort to update the Guidelines document to make it more useful for developers and the committee members and other decision-makers alike. The project initially focused on improving the images but has expanded to making the guideline descriptions and recommendations more reflective of the evolving community.

With that introduction, he called for revisions to the group's October edits of the combination of DDG page 16 ("Consider Context"), page 17 ("Promote Architectural Compatibility"), and page 19 ("Use Architectural Contrast Wisely"). **Member Loosveldt** suggested an overall search and replacement of the phrase "high quality" throughout the document, as a term that is too general to be helpful. She also shared a number of proposed revisions that the group then worked through together.

The group proceeded to look at DDG page 18, "Preserve Historic Buildings," with a number of suggested amendments. The discussion touched on the acknowledgments that not all historic buildings have been officially designated as such and that a building's old age does not necessarily make it an aesthetically desirable candidate for preservation. As the hour grew late, the group agreed to return to consideration of DDG page 18 at the next meeting.

#### **7.0 Other Business/Updates**

**Mr. Kelter** suggested that the draft DLC 2016-17 Work Program item be moved to the next meeting's agenda for adoption if there is a quorum. During the discussion of DDG page 18 ("Preserve Historic Buildings"), **Member Loosveldt** had made a pitch for the committee to retain the workplan task of updating the City's inventory of historic properties—**Mr. Kelter** confirmed that the item was in fact still included in the current draft of the workplan under the Comprehensive Plan Update task. The group agreed to revisit adoption of the Work Program at the next meeting.

#### **8.0 Design and Landmarks Committee Discussion Items**

**Mr. Kelter** encouraged Ms. Schuster and Mr. Corrente to feel welcome to sit in on the next committee meeting if they are interested, while the appointment process continues to unfold.

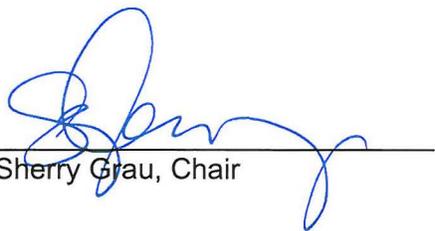
#### **9.0 Forecast for Future Meetings:**

- December 12, 2016                      DDG revisions – Revisit Page 18 ("Preserve Historic Buildings") and begin the Pedestrian Emphasis element

**Chair Grau** adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brett Kelper, Associate Planner



Sherry Grau, Chair