

Shannon Techie, Senior Urban Planner, City of Peoria, Community Development Department, presented details of the request, current photos showing the front porch, and a brochure showing handrail styles.

Sherry Seckler, petitioner, 924 NE Glen Oak Avenue, said she wants to restore the porch. Although she has been unable to find pictures that would identify the original spindles, notches in the posts at the top of the stairs suggest the original handrail was wider than the present handrail. Ms. Seckler will have an experienced carpenter duplicate the railing with a wider width and spindles that do not exceed 4".


Chairperson Powers closed the public hearing.

Motion:

Commissioner Herold moved to approve the application as requested. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Maloof.

Chairperson Powers administered the Certificate of Appropriate Findings of Fact Worksheet.

Approved viva voce vote 5 to 0.

 **HPC 14-15** Public Hearing on the request of Leann Johnson, Director, of the Peoria Public Library, to designate the McClure Branch Library located at 315 W. McClure Avenue (Parcel Identification No. 14-33-179-002), Peoria, IL as a local historic landmark. (Council District 2).

Shannon Techie, Senior Urban Planner, City of Peoria, Community Development Department, presented details of the request, stating that per Historic Preservation Ordinance, Section 16-38, the Commission must determine if a nominated property, structure, or area meets three or more of the following criteria.

1. Its character, interest or value as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the city, the county, the state or the United States of America deems it historically significant.
2. Its location as a site of a significant local, county, state or national event.
3. Its identification with a person who significantly contributed to the development of the city, the state or the nation.
4. Its embodiment of distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style valuable for the study of a period, type, method of construction or use of indigenous materials.
5. Its identification as the work of a master building designer, architect or landscape architect whose individual work has influenced the development of the city, the state or the nation.
6. Its embodiment of elements of design, detailing, or craftsmanship that renders it architecturally significant.
7. Its embodiment of design elements that make it structurally or architecturally innovative.
8. Its unique location or singular physical characteristics that make it an established or familiar visual feature.
9. Its character as a particularly fine or unique example of a utilitarian structure with a high level of integrity or architectural significance.
10. Owner consent.

Additionally, any structure, property, or area that meets three or more of the above criteria shall also be suitable for preservation or restoration and have sufficient integrity of location, design, materials and workmanship to make it worthy of preservation or restoration.

Ms. Techie informed Commissioners of the following options.

- Grant the requested designation.
- Modify the requested designation. (The Commission may not modify a designation to extend beyond the property described in the application unless a new application is filed and the procedure repeated.)
- Deny the requested designation. (Per Section 16-86, the denial effectively ends the designation process and no future applications may be submitted for twelve months for designation of any of these properties. Per the ordinance, the Commission has the discretion to extend this time for an additional twelve months.)
- A decision by the Commission to recommend a designation shall operate as a recommendation to the City Council, which shall take final action. If the City Council votes to deny the designation, no application related to the same property may be filed during the twelve months following denial by the City Council.

Commissioner Ruckriegel said, as a Trustee of the Peoria Public Library, he would be abstaining from any discussion and vote on this matter.

Ketra Schefelbein, 420 W. Virginia, submitted a letter of support for the McClure Branch Library. It was read into the record by Ms. Techie.

Margaret E. Cousin, 1623 W. Moss Avenue, representing the Peoria Public Library of Trustees, gave a presentation in support of the application that included a legal description, map, applicable designation criteria, and supplemental support information. Ms. Cousins said she believes the McClure Branch Library meets five of the ten criteria (1, 4, 6, 8, and 10) as required per Historic Preservation Ordinance, Section 16-38.

Edward J. Barry, Jr., 2816 N. Linn, representing the Peoria Public Library of Trustees, said the Peoria Public Library of Trustees voted unanimously to seek designation of this branch as a local historic landmark because of its excellent architectural bones. Mr. Barry said money has been invested in the library to bring it up to date while maintaining the integrity of the building. He said this architectural landmark not only brings a comfort level to the neighborhood, but some patrons come to the library even though they may live closer to another branch.

Chairperson Powers closed the public hearing.

Commissioners agreed it was a thorough and beautiful application.

Motion:

Commissioner Herold moved that the application meets the criteria of 1, 4, 6, 8, and 10 of the Historic Preservation Ordinance, Section 16-38(a) and (b). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peirz.

Chairperson Powers administered the Landmark or Historic District Designation Finding of Facts Worksheet.

Approved viva voce vote 4 to 0.

Yeas: Herold, Maloof, Peirz, Powers,
Nays: None
Abstain: Ruckriegel

Ms. Techie said this application will be presented to the City Council for approval on August 12, 2014.