

KING COUNTY LANDMARKS COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES*

*December 16, 2021
Zoom (Call-in) Conference
Seattle, Washington
(Approved 01/27/2022)*

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Cristy Lake, Chair; Dean Kralios, Adam Alsobrook, Amy Blue, Amber Earley, Candace Tucker

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED: Tanya Woo, Caroline Lemay

STAFF PRESENT: Sarah Steen, Jennifer Meisner

GUESTS: Bill Dempsey, Emily Peterson, Jack Johnson, Karen Deal, Kylar Danielson, Jamie Lee

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Lake called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. Introductions of commissioners and staff were made, and the Chair explained the structure of the hearing.

Convene KING COUNTY LANDMARKS COMMISSION

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Lake asked for any changes/corrections to the November 18, 2021 meeting minutes. Hearing none, Lake called for a motion.

Kralios/Tucker moved to approve the November 18, 2021 meeting minutes of the King County Landmarks Commission. The motion passed 6-0.

PUBLIC HEARING: Designation Termination Request - PCCC Administration Bldg.

Steen gave an overview of the legal framework that defines what is required to consider a landmark designation termination. She then reviewed the history of the PCCC Administration Building site up to present day, including the commission-approved 2016 CoA to demolish the building itself, as it had deteriorated to the point of becoming a public safety hazard. Steen listed the other site features included in the 1993 designation report, noting that none of them remained in existence and/or retained enough integrity to convey their historic significance.

Lake then invited the applicant to speak on the termination request. Karen Deal, representative of property owner Lakeside Industries, introduced the cultural resource staff of Perteet, Inc. who developed the cultural resources report on the site, to speak on behalf of the owners. Emily Peterson and Jack Johnson presented their investigation of both above and below-ground historic/cultural resources on the PCCC Administration Building site. Their conclusion, with DAHP concurrence, is that the archaeological features surveyed (and recorded as an archaeological site) are not eligible for National Register listing, and that no resources remain extant above-ground on the site that retain adequate integrity to convey the site's historic significance as it was originally designated under Criterion A1.

*May include minutes for cities who have interlocal historic preservation agreements with King County.

Lake thanked the applicant and opened the floor to public comment. Hearing none, Lake asked if there was any additional comment from or questions for the applicant or staff. Hearing none, Lake closed the public comment portion of the hearing and requested Commissioner deliberation.

Commissioner Earley noted that the investigation of the site and the presentation of findings was very thorough. She said it was clear that with the removal of the building itself, no significant historic features remained with adequate integrity, so agreed that the termination threshold requirements had been met. Commissioner Kralios echoed Earley, noting given the information presented it is clear that site has lost significance. Commissioners Tucker, Blue and Alsobrook concurred. Lake called for a motion on the termination request.

Blue/Earley moved to approve King County landmark designation termination of the PCCC Administration Building site, on the basis that it no longer retains sufficient integrity to convey its historic significance under Criterion A1. The motion passed 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER'S REPORT: Meisner reported on the 2021 Spellman Awards preparation, saying that video production with the award participants was wrapped, and the video should be aired in early January. Meisner also reported that a consultant to assist staff with the KCHPP Strategic Plan update had been engaged, BDS Consulting, and staff is now putting together survey questions and materials for outreach.

Meisner noted that staff are still seeking a replacement for Ella Moore, who held a Heritage Organization seat on the Commission, asking the Commissioners to let staff know if they have thoughts about potential candidates. She then thanked the Commission for all their good work this year, noting that it had been a year full of unique and challenging issues placed before the Commission, and the level of preparedness and professionalism shown by the Commissioners has been exemplary. Earley said she would really like to see another nomination for resources on the moon. All agreed. Discussion continued on preventing future demolitions of neglected resources, and training opportunities for mid-century modern buildings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

ADJOURN: The KCLC adjourned at 5:24 p.m.