

Members

Kevin Bartoy, Chair
Jennifer Baersten, Vice-Chair
Sarah Hilsendeger
Laurel McQuade
Alex Morganroth
Bryan Rousseau
Lysa Schloesser
Jenny Sullivan
George Zeno
Deborah Cade, North Slope Ex-Officio
Leah Jaggars, Wedge Ex-Officio



MINUTES

Landmarks Preservation Commission Planning and Development Services Department

Staff

Reuben McKnight, Historic Preservation Officer
Susan Johnson, Historic Preservation Coordinator
Paige Rooney, Historic Preservation Intern
Mary Crabtree, Administrative Assistant

Date: January 25, 2023

Location: *Hybrid – Conference Room 243, 747 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402 & Zoom Webinar*

Commission Members in Attendance:

Kevin Bartoy, Chair
Jennifer Baersten, Vice-Chair
Sarah Hilsendeger
Laurel McQuade
Alex Morganroth
Bryan Rousseau
Lysa Schloesser
George Zeno
Deborah Cade, North Slope Ex-Officio

Staff Present:

Reuben McKnight
Susan Johnson
Paige Rooney
Mary Crabtree

Others Present:

Jessica Guatney
Spencer Howard
Steve DeWalt
Rob Brewster

Commissioner Members Excused:

N/A

Commission Members Absent:

Jenny Sullivan
Leah Jaggars, Wedge Ex-Officio

Chair Bartoy called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

- 1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF INDIGENOUS LANDS**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. McKnight reported that no written comments were received for public comment.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

The agenda was approved as submitted.

A. Excusal of Absences

- N/A

B. Approval of Minutes

There were no minutes for approval.

C. Administrative Review:

- 512 N. L St. – garage

5. PUBLIC HEARING

A. John F. and Edith MacFarlane House (314 N. Yakima Ave.)

Chair Bartoy called the hearing to order at 5:34 p.m.

Ms. Johnson read the staff report as provided in the packet.

Ms. Guatney provided additional information.

Chair Bartoy called for testimony. No individuals addressed the Commission.

Chair Bartoy closed the public hearing at 5:40 p.m.

Vice-Chair Baersten moved that the Landmarks Preservation Commission recommend to City Council that 314 N. Yakima Avenue, the MacFarlane House, be included on the Tacoma Register of Historic Places, including the following elements, being the entire exterior of the home, finding that it meets Criteria C and E of TMC 13.07.040. Commissioner McQuade seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. National Realty Building (1117-1119 Pacific Ave.)

Chair Bartoy called the hearing to order at 5:42 p.m.

Ms. Rooney read the staff report as provided in the packet.

Mr. DeWalt provided additional information.

Chair Bartoy called for testimony. No individuals addressed the Commission.

Chair Bartoy closed the public hearing at 5:49 p.m.

Vice-Chair Baersten asked if this nomination would be considered as one or two properties. Mr. McKnight stated that the buildings are on a single tax parcel, and it is brought to the Commission as one property.

Commissioner Hilsendeger asked if there is anything left of the annex's historic façade.

Vice-Chair Baersten moved that the Landmarks Preservation Commission recommend to City Council that 1117-1119 Pacific Avenue, the National Realty Building, be included on the Tacoma Register of Historic Places, including the exterior of the Annex and skyscraper building, finding that it meets Criteria A, B, and C of TMC 13.07.040. Commissioner Hilsendeger seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. DESIGN REVIEW

A. 1211 N. 10th St. Michelle Martinez *Foundation repairs, temporary porch removal*

Mr. McKnight read the staff report as provided in the packet.

Commissioner Cade expressed appreciation of the owner and contractor checking in with Staff to ensure historic guideline compliance.

Commissioner McQuade asked how staff knows the porch isn't original. Mr. McKnight stated that the CMU blocks were added later in addition to the concrete slab. Additionally, the design and construction of the balustrade suggest that it is not original to the house.

Commissioner McQuade noted that the packet states that the posts on the porch may be salvaged and asked if the owner will do this. Mr. McKnight stated that they have not made that requirement, but it is within the Commission's scope.

Commissioner McQuade stated that the windows looked original to the house and asked if they could provide guidance to the owner regarding how to preserve these elements. Mr. McKnight stated that Staff will be in contact with the owner.

Commissioner Hilsendeger noted that the railing height seems short and asked if it meets code and if it would be salvageable. Mr. McKnight replied that the salvageability depends on what the health and safety risk tolerance is, but he expects that they might want a taller railing. Ms. Johnson added that based on the 1977 photo of the house, the balustrade has changed and is not historic.

Vice-Chair Baersten asked if the design review is only for the reconstruction of the porch or if any other work is planned. Ms. Johnson stated that the only work being done currently is on the porch, but the owners purchased the property recently and may have more work in the future.

Commissioner McQuade moved that the Landmarks Preservation Commission adopt as findings the staff analysis and approve the application for foundation repairs at 1211 N. 10th Street as submitted with the caveat that the posts should be salvaged if possible. Commissioner Hilsendeger seconded the motion.

Vice-Chair Baersten requested that staff provide an update regarding whether the posts are original or not once work begins.

The motion passed unanimously.

7. BOARD BUSINESS/COMMUNICATION ITEMS

A. Equity Committee updates

There was no Equity Committee update.

B. Events & Activities

- Historic Preservation Month is in May, and plans for programs/events are underway. The proposed theme is Sustainability.
- The Tacoma Historical Society has an exhibit opening on Friday, January 27, 2023 – “Dreams & Dispossession: The Railway Comes to Tacoma”.

8. CHAIR COMMENTS

Mr. McKnight provided an update on the installation of the Cushman substation.

Commissioner Cade reported that 811 N. Ainsworth looks like the site has begun work.

Chair Bartoy asked about the potential of more field visits. Commissioner Hilsendeger suggested visiting the Astor Apartments. Vice-Chair Baersten suggested visiting the National Realty Building. Mr. McKnight asked the Commission to email him ideas for possible field visits for the Commission.

Commissioner Zeno asked about tours for Black History Month. Mr. McKnight stated that Staff is in the planning stage of the URC grant to document Black historic sites in Tacoma. Vice-Chair Baersten added that the State received the same grant as the City and has begun documenting sites in Tacoma for Black history.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.