



Our Vision

Red Wing thrives as a vibrant, creative river town that values its natural environment, welcomes all people, and unlocks opportunity for everyone.

Our Mission

We strive to create a sustainable, healthy, accessible, resilient, and equitable community where every person feels at home.

Statement of Intent: We gather today in this room as one people to discuss and attend to the matters of Red Wing. Together, as a government body and as community members, we agree to treat everyone with courtesy, dignity, and respect. We will listen to all sides of an issue, encourage participation, support each other, act with honor and accountability, and inspire pride in our community. This we commit as we open this meeting.

Meeting Announcement and Agenda Heritage Preservation Commission Regular Meeting City Council Chambers, 315 West 4th Street, Red Wing, MN & Virtually Wednesday, October 1, 2025, at 5:30 PM

This meeting will be held in the City Hall Council Chambers and virtually via Webex at the same time. Members of the public can join this meeting either in person at City Hall or virtually. To join this meeting via Webex, [click this link](#). To join via telephone, please dial (415) 655-0001. Enter access code 2559 341 8315 and password 2025 when prompted.

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of Agenda

4. Approval of Minutes

4.A. Draft Minutes from the September 3, 2025, Regular Meeting

5. Public Comment

We now invite anyone to share their thoughts on a topic that is not on the agenda. We welcome all opinions and ideas. We appreciate you stating your name at the lectern, and please remember that personal attacks may be ruled out of order. You will have up to three minutes to comment, and we appreciate your time in coming tonight.

6. Motions & General Business

6.A. Design Review - A-Frame Sign for Adjourn at 413 Main Street

6.B. Design Review - A-Frame Sign for Whimsy's by Krista, 325 Main Street

7. Communication Items

7.A. Staff Status Report (Verbal)

7.B. Commissioner Comments

7.C. Council Liaison Comments

8. Adjournment

Accommodations for signing interpreter, Braille, large print, etc. can be made. Call City Hall at 385.3600 seven days prior to the need. Hearing assistance devices are available during meetings.

**The 544th Meeting of the Red Wing Heritage Preservation Commission
Regular Meeting
City Council Chambers
September 3, 2025**

Members Present: Chair Brooke Reinke; Commissioners Kent Tsui, Ruth Nerhaugen, Jenifer Majerus, and Sue Dicke

Members Absent: Commissioner Paul Pflueger (excused absence), Commissioner Lottie Aslakson, Council Liaison Janie Farrar (excused absence)

Others Present: Steve Kohn, Planning Manager / Staff Liaison

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Reinke at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Chair Reinke and Commissioners Tsui, Nerhaugen, Dicke, and Majerus were in attendance.

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner Tsui, seconded by Commissioner Nerhaugen and unanimously carried, to approve the agenda as presented.

4. Approval of Minutes

A. Draft Minutes of the August 5, 2025, Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Tsui requested a minor correction to Item 6A of the minutes:

*A motion was made by Commissioner Nerhaugen to donate \$1,000 from the HPC budget toward project expenses. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Tsui**, a vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7:0.*

A motion was made by Commissioner Tsui, seconded by Commissioner Majerus and unanimously carried, to approve the August 5 meeting minutes as corrected.

5. Public Comment

There was no public comment relating to items not listed on the agenda.

6. Motions and General Business

A. Design Review: Minor Facelift at 316 Bush Street for Upper Level and Rear Window Replacements.

Staff Liaison Kohn reviewed the proposed window replacement project using photos. He noted that none of the windows are original to the property.

Staff Liaison Kohn also discussed a new awning for the storefront, noting that this is not subject to HPC review. He referenced the staff report and the suggested Findings of Fact, stating that staff recommends approval of the design review for the window replacement project. The applicant, Stephen Gheen, confirmed that the bars on the rear windows will be removed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Nerhaugen, seconded by Commissioner Majerus and unanimously carried, to approve the design review for the window replacement project at 316 Bush Street as submitted.

B. Design Review: Major Facelift at 406 Main Street for Storefront Replacement.

Staff Liaison Kohn provided background information and described the proposed storefront project, noting that the application relates to the two buildings next to the St. James Hotel building. He stated that the project involves going back to a storefront design that more closely resembles the original design. He noted that no significant interior changes are planned, except for a stairway adjustment. He reviewed drawings and photos depicting the current and proposed storefront designs. He stated that the project has been approved for a Downtown Main Street renovation program grant. He discussed proposed materials and colors. He referenced suggested Findings of Fact and stated that staff recommends approval of the design review for the proposed major facelift project, with two suggested conditions:

1. City staff to review and approve the use of exterior brick materials that would closely match the existing facade bricks.
2. City staff to review and approve the hotel entrance signage.

The proposed entrance doors were further detailed. Historical photos were reviewed. The cornices were discussed. Commissioners spoke in support of proposed storefront design and stated that they felt comfortable with the suggested conditions of approval.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tsui, seconded by Commissioner Dicke and unanimously carried, to approve the design review for a major facelift at 406 Main Street as submitted, with the two suggested conditions of approval.

Commissioner Nerhaugen asked if there are plans for renovations to other buildings on this block. Staff Liaison Kohn indicated that renovations are being considered but that no specific proposals have been submitted.

C. Design Review: Amendment Request and Additional Information Regarding Major Facelift at 317 Bush Street.

Staff Liaison Kohn provided background information and referenced past HPC discussion of the Hallstrom's Building.

Staff Liaison Kohn noted that the applicant has requested modifications to the original project design. He referenced a historic photo of the building. He detailed proposed structural improvements to support the brick facade, including materials and colors, utilizing a concept drawing. Proposed window adjustments were discussed. Commissioners spoke in support of the proposed design solution.

A motion was made by Commissioner Nerhaugen, seconded by Commissioner Majerus and unanimously carried, to approve the design review for the updated plans for 317 Bush Street as submitted.

D. Design Review: Remove from Table - Major Facelift to North Wall at 325 Plum Street.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tsui, seconded by Commissioner Nerhaugen and unanimously carried, to remove this item from the table.

Staff Liaison Kohn provided background information and referenced past HPC discussion of the Eagle House project. He reviewed the findings of an investigation performed by a structural engineer. He discussed proposed structural improvements that should allow at least 50% of the existing brick wall to be saved. He reviewed proposed materials and colors. The location of a future parking garage was clarified. The proposed new siding was further discussed. Plans for window and door replacements along the back wall were discussed.

Commissioners expressed support for the conceptual design but requested the submission of more specific information by the applicant relating to the number of windows being proposed on the first level along with the proposed window sills, materials, and colors. The project was further discussed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tsui, seconded by Commissioner Nerhaugen and unanimously carried, to approve the conceptual design for 325 Plum Street as presented, with final design plans to be submitted for HPC review and approval.

7. Communication Items

A. Staff Status Report.

Staff Liaison Kohn discussed the PreserveMN 2025 conference, noting that Chair Reinke and Commissioner Majerus plan to attend. He reviewed the reimbursement process for mileage and noted that a scholarship grant has been approved.

Staff Liaison Kohn provided an update regarding the Eagle Scout project at the Goodhue County Poor Farm Cemetery.

Staff Liaison Kohn reported that a ribbon-cutting ceremony and tour of He Mni Can – Barn Bluff has been tentatively scheduled on September 24.

Staff Liaison Kohn provided an update regarding the new welcome sign near the Eisenhower Bridge of Valor.

Staff Liaison Kohn discussed environmental and archeological review processes in conjunction with the planned demolition of the former maltery building. He reviewed the anticipated project timeline, noting requirements relating to a Minnesota DEED grant toward demolition costs. He provided historical background information and noted that the applicant plans to salvage as much of the limestone and brick as possible.

B. Commissioner Comments.

Chair Reinke reported that she will be unable to attend the regularly scheduled HPC meeting in October due to a work commitment.

C. Council Liaison Comments.

Council Liaison Farrar was not in attendance.

8. Adjournment

Chair Reinke adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Agenda Item

06.A. – Heritage Preservation Design Review for A-Frame Sign at 413 Main Street for Adourn

Action Requested

Motion to Adopt Staff Recommendation

Attachments

- Photos

Prepared By

Steve Kohn, Planning Manager, September 26, 2025

Background

Adourn recently opened at 413 Main Street and has submitted an application for a Sign Permit for an A-Frame sign to be displayed on the public sidewalk in front of the building. A Design Review is a required part of the Sign Permit.

The HPC previously worked with the business owner on a projecting sign, which was approved in July. This signage proposal is consistent with the approved projecting sign and window signage (which did not require a permit).

The proposed 24"x40" A-Frame sign is constructed of a black metal frame with perforated substrate inserts for the actual sign faces on each side (similar to a yard sign material). The sign's background color is white, with the business' name and logo printed on each side in the same colors as the projecting sign approved earlier. The sign also has "OPEN" and an arrow in matching colors.

The signage meets all other sign regulations in the Sign Ordinance and the Heritage Preservation Ordinance.

Analysis

Staff finds that the proposed signage will not alter or destroy the distinguishing original qualities and character of the building and district. The proposed sign colors are compatible with the building and District. Two font styles are being used for the main text, which is permissible, Chapter 16 regulations allow a maximum of two letter styles on a sign.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the Design Review Form as submitted

OPEN





Agenda Item

6.B. – Heritage Preservation Design Review for A-Frame Sign at 325 Main Street

Action Requested

Motion to Adopt Staff Recommendation

Attachments

- Photo of Proposed Sign
- Photo of Building

Prepared By

Steve Kohn, Planning Manager, September 26, 2025

Background

Whimsy's by Krista, 325 Main Street, has submitted a Sign Permit application and a Heritage Preservation Design Review application for a new A-Frame sign at the site.

The site has an existing building sign located on the Bush Street façade and a projecting sign on the Main Street façade. The applicant plans to utilize the A-Frame sign on the sidewalk to promote the business. All A-Frame signs that will be located on a public sidewalk in the Downtown Historic District require a Sign Permit and HPC Design Review.

The proposed A-Frame sign is 21" wide by 40" tall and is constructed of a black metal exterior frame and an inserted chalkboard. No permanent graphics are included on the sign; messages will be handwritten with chalk. Both sides of the sign are identical. Please see the attached photos of the sign and building.

Analysis

The proposed A-Frame sign appears to be compatible with the storefront in regard to color and design, specifically the black color ties to existing signage and other architectural elements on the building. The proposed sign materials are durable and appear to be compatible with materials found in the district. Staff finds that the proposed sign will not alter or destroy the distinguishing original qualities and character of the building and district. The sign appears to meet all sign regulations in the Sign Ordinance and the Heritage Preservation Ordinance.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the Design Review Form as submitted.

21"

40"

OPEN

Whimsy's
by
Krysta

