

**The 550th Meeting of the Red Wing Heritage Preservation Commission  
Regular Meeting  
City Council Chambers  
March 4, 2026**

**Members Present:** Chair Brooke Reinke; Commissioners Kent Tsui, Ruth Nerhaugen, Jenifer Majerus, Lottie Aslakson, Paul Pflueger, and Megan Goodwin

**Members Absent:** All members in attendance

**Others Present:** Steve Kohn, Planning Manager

**1. Call to Order**

Chair Reinke called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Roll call was conducted. Chair Reinke and Commissioners Tsui, Nerhaugen, Goodwin, Majerus, Aslakson, and Pflueger were in attendance.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made by Commissioner Tsui, seconded by Commissioner Nerhaugen to approve the agenda as drafted. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7:0.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

**A. Draft Minutes of the February 4, 2026, Regular Meeting.**

A motion was made by Commissioner Goodwin, seconded by Commissioner Majerus to approve the minutes as drafted. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7:0.

**B. Draft Minutes of the February 12, 2026, Special Meeting.**

A motion was made by Commissioner Majerus, seconded by Commissioner Goodwin to approve the minutes as drafted. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried by a vote of 4:0:3 with Commissioners Aslakson, Pflueger, and Tsui abstaining from the vote due to being absent from the meeting.

**5. Public Comment**

No one wished to address the Commission.

**6. Motions and General Business**

**A. Design Review Amendment- 317 Bush Street, Minor Facelift Revisions to November 2024 Approval and August 2025 Amendment.**

Staff Liaison Kohn provided background information and referenced past HPC discussions on the minor facelift. He described that the Applicant would not be installing a fourth window on the upper main façade, would be painting the front black, and has preserved the brick on the side of the building. He described that

the Applicant would like to extend the storefront around the corner of the building into the alley, and that the proposed Goose Neck lights must be mounted directly on the brick due to interior structural components.

Commissioner Nerhaugen asked what type of material would be used around the window on the side of the building. Staff Liaison Kohn shared that the material is painted black, hardie board, and is the same material that will be used on the front of the building. Chair Reinke asked what the window's material would be. Staff Liaison Kohn noted that the material is black aluminum. Commissioner Tsui asked the reason for adding an extended storefront. Staff Liaison Kohn stated that the electrical meter/service needs to be taken and that the masonry in the area is in poor condition, so it would be cheaper to extend the paneling and add a new window in the space. Chair Reinke reminded the Commission that there was a possibility of losing all the bricks originally, but this is just losing some that are deteriorating.

A motion was made by Commissioner Majerus, seconded by Commissioner Tsui to approve the facelift as recommended. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7:0.

#### **B. Design Review – Building Signs at 317 Bush Street for Riverbend Floral Studio.**

Staff Liaison Kohn presented background information on the building signs and what the signs would look like, as outlined in the Agenda Packet.

Commissioner Tsui asked if there would still be an LED light or just the Goose Neck lighting. Staff Liaison Kohn confirmed that there would no longer be any LED lights.

Staff Liaison Kohn shared similar signage in other downtown locations regarding the proposed alley sign. He noted that the vertical signage would not be good for multiple buildings but appears to be acceptable for this building and that the proposed alley sign could be moved to a horizontal sign above the new window, if the HPC did not find the proposed location to be appropriate.

Commissioner Tsui noted that it was nice that the sign reads flowers on the side of the building. The Commission all agreed that the vertical signage was a good addition to the building.

A motion was made by Commissioner Goodwin, seconded by Commissioner Majerus to approve both signs as submitted. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7:0.

**Staff Liaison Kohn asked if the Commission would be willing to look at 6.E. first. Chair Reinke stated that it would be fine.**

**E. Design Review Amendment – 325 Bush Street, Major Facelift Revision.**

Staff Liaison Kohn stated that the information was not included in the Agenda Packet, but was handed out to the Commission. He noted that the Chief was almost complete, and the Applicant decided not to put the windows in that were approved earlier. He shared photos of what was originally approved and what is now being proposed. He presented on the major facelift revision. He stated that the request to revise the front façade approval is coming in late, but that there is hopefully enough information to make a decision. The Applicant was present to answer questions.

Commissioner Pflueger asked if the Applicant is keeping true to the original exterior and interior. The Applicant stated that the look would be on the exterior only, but is trying to keep the theater look. He noted that the center part of the upper storefront is still to be decided, but he would like to go with an Art Deco motif. Commissioner Tsui noted the HPC wanted to keep the building Art Deco and had given that direction in the past. Chair Reinke asked if the center panels would be the color shown in the picture. The Applicant shared that those colors are a safety net, but hopes to have a broader mix and to exemplify the Art Deco. Chair Reinke asked whether, by saying "exemplify Art Deco," the Applicant was describing the shapes on the center tiles. Staff Liaison Kohn and the Applicant described that using the pictures, the shapes, and the colors would be very important.

Chair Reinke thanked the Applicant for keeping the Art Deco feel. She noted that the look is distinctive, and the residents will recognize the building as the Chief Theater.

Staff Liaison Kohn shared that the Commission would be voting only on the storefront and that the vertical element (anything above the awning) of the theater would come back at a later date. The Applicant shared that a café and therapy center would be going into the location.

Commissioner Tsui asked what material the canopy would be made out of. The Applicant stated aluminum. Commissioner Nerhaugen asked if there were lights on the front of the building. Staff Liaison Kohn noted that there were no lights right now. The Applicant shared that there will be recessed lights in the canopy that will shine down.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tsui, seconded by Commissioner Aslakson to approve the revised storefront and awning. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7:0.

**C. Discuss Preservation Month Activities.**

Chair Reinke reminded the Commission that committees were formed to accomplish the tasks needed for Preservation Month. Staff Liaison Kohn shared that the next day, he would issue a news release requesting nominations for

awards. Chair Reinke recommended scheduling a workshop to discuss proposed activities for Preservation Month. The Commission decided to have a workshop in April with the whole Commission, and the committees could meet on their own time. Staff Liaison Kohn shared that the activities usually fall towards the end of May.

Commissioner Majerus stated that she has also spoken with someone from the Arts Commission to help with the activities. She added that trivia would be a good addition to the activities as well. The Commission thought that would be a good idea to add. Staff Liaison Kohn volunteered to contact the potential event speaker, Fred Johnson.

**D. NAPC Conference Tour Discussion.**

Staff Liaison Kohn stated that a bus would be coming to Red Wing with 50 people on it, and people would be getting on and off to talk at various stops. The Anderson Center would be the first stop, then downtown, and a lunch would need to be provided. The St. James has been contacted to host the lunch. He went over the tentative itinerary for the day and asked the Commission if those were the things to highlight. Commissioner Tsui noted that the time would be really tight. Staff Liaison Kohn agreed. He shared that volunteers would be needed to help shuttle people around. He stated that registration is open, but he does not have information on which days must be attended for the City to maintain its CLG status.

**E. Design Review Amendment – 325 Bush Street, Major Facelift Revision.**

This item was addressed after B. Design Review – Building Signs at 317 Bush Street for Riverbend Floral Studio.

**7. Communication Items**

**A. Staff Status Report (Verbal).**

Staff Liaison Kohn stated that he gave everyone a handout with the 2026 Rules and Policies for Boards and Commissions, which is also on the website. He noted that no action was needed unless the Commission wanted to change the way it operates. He shared that the Council Liaisons would no longer serve on most Boards and Commissions. If anything needed to be relayed to the Council, then he would do so from now on.

Staff Liaison Kohn shared that the Malting Building was getting pushed farther into the spring, but it sounds promising. The Eagle House is moving along, but there are some structural issues on the rear facade. He had not heard from the St. James project lately, but the glass was supposed to arrive in the first week of March. The goal is to be complete by the end of April.

**B. Commissioner Comments.**

There were no Commissioner comments.

**C. Council Liaison Comments.**

There were no Council comments and will be removed in the future.

**8. Adjournment**

Chair Reinke adjourned the meeting at 6:51 p.m.