CB 2021-250

Case 050-20: Fairview Cemetery – A request to remove from District R-1 (Single-family Residential) and include in District R-1-HP (Single-family Residential Historic Preservation) for historic preservation – City of Joplin.

Jill Sullivan, Chairman of the Historic Preservation Commission, 721 N. Sergeant, Joplin, MO. This is the presentation for the final City-owned cemetery for the Historic District. It is eligible for the Historic Districts for 5 of 10 of the criteria. Fairview Cemetery is a little different than the other cemeteries in Joplin because it has been used since 1832, prior to the incorporation of the city. In September 1873, approximately 6 months after the city was incorporated, E.R. Moffet was mayor at the time. He drafted and notarized a document stating that it would be used for public use. He created Joplin's first municipal cemetery. Fairview Cemetery had noted members of the community buried there and Veterans from the American Civil War, Spanish American War, both World Wars, Korea and Vietnam. Architecture is varied and you can see the reflections of the different time periods.

Mr. Ramsour asked Ms. Sullivan to briefly refresh the Commissioners of the other three cemeteries.

Ms. Sullivan stated the other three cemeteries were presented last month, November. The HP Commission did architectural surveys of all four cemeteries. The field work was done by the HP Commission. It did take a couple of years to acquire information for the nomination to the local landmarks.

Mr. Ramsour asked if any of the Commissioners have any questions?

Mr. Kimble stated that he wanted to know about the Northwest side. It is bare and he asked about the possibility of someone buying the property and developing it. Would it be impossible for someone to purchase that one piece of property and use it for something else, since it would be in the HP District?

Mr. Stanton stated that it would not be impossible for someone to purchase, but if the city decided to sell off that portion of the cemetery, either the City or the Buyer prior to the sale would have to request to rezone the property prior to the transaction.

Mr. Ramsour asked if there were any other questions from the Commissioners?

Mr. Stanton stated he had two questions from Ms. Phillips, she was unable to attend today. She was planning on calling in and did have these questions beforehand. The first question she had was, she recalled the first elected Mayor of Joplin has been interred there and wanted to know if he was included in the local landmark application?

Ms. Sullivan stated that there are many persons of note at all the cemeteries, but we do not intend to recognize that on the signs due to complications. There is only 200 words on the storyboards.

Mr. Stanton stated that the other question Ms. Phillips had was if the rezoning passes is there an opportunity for the stone wall to be restored.

Ms. Sullivan stated that she did not have enough knowledge about that to answer.

Mr. Thomas Walters, HPC Staff, 602 S. Main St. Joplin, MO. One of the most key features about designating a property historic is that it gives a limited jurisdiction for the Historic Preservation Commission to review any work that happens within the cemetery. If there was to be any work to be

done on the historic stone fence that would be appropriate either it would be far too expensive to fix, so they would vote to see if there is anything to honor it that would not contrast with it and it certainly not be removed. It would also make it eligible for grants especially the Historic Preservation fund grants if we were to do a restoration project. There are resources that can be provided to the Parks and Recreation Department.

Mr. Ramsour asked if there were any other questions from the Commission? There were not. Mr. Ramsour asked if there is there anyone in the audience to speak in favor of this case? There were not. Mr. Ramsour asked if there was anyone in opposition to the case? There was not.

MS. STEELE MOVED, SECONDED BY MR. KIMBLE THAT CASE 050-20 BE FORWARDED TO THE CITY COUNCIL WITH RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL. MOTION CARRIED, WITH MR. RAMSOUR, MRS. STEELE, MR. MCCULLOUGH, MR. EASTMAN, AND MR. KIMBLE VOTING "AYE". (5 IN FAVOR, 2 ABSENT).