



The City of Seattle

Landmarks Preservation Board

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LPB 54/24

MINUTES

Landmarks Preservation Board Meeting

City Hall, Room L2-80

Hybrid Meeting

Wednesday, March 20, 2024 - 3:30 p.m.

Board Members Present

Dean Barnes

Taber Caton

Matt Inpanbutr

Ian Macleod, Chair

Lora-Ellen McKinney

Lawrence Norman

Katie Randall

Becca Pheasant-Reis

Marc Schmitt

Harriet Wasserman

Staff

Sarah Sodt

Erin Doherty

Melinda Bloom

Absent

Roi Chang, Vice-Chair

Marc Schmitt

Padraic Slattery

Chair, Ian Macleod called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

032024.1

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jeff Murdock, Historic Seattle spoke in support of the nomination of Queen Anne Pool. He said he submitted comments via email (in DON file). He agreed with the

Staff Report that all six designations applied. The Queen Anne Pool was designed by Benjamin F. McAdoo, Jr., a graduate of the University of Washington Department of Architecture and the first Black architect registered in Washington State. Completed in 1977, the Queen Anne pool was the final community pool constructed under King County's Forward Thrust program, a bond issue which funded community projects throughout Seattle and the county. The pool building was designed in a 1970s modernist style, a simple shell set back and clad in red brick to be architecturally compatible in the community. One interesting feature of the exterior is the multi-sloped roofline, which rises above the pool and conveys the shape of the swimming pool beneath it; from the interior, the ceiling form provides a convenient way to measure one's progress doing the backstroke across the pool. The building interior features exposed glue-laminated beams, wood cladding and red brick walls, exposed natural materials consistent with Pacific Northwest modernism.

McAdoo built his architectural practice from the late 1940s through the 1970s. His early residential designs were widely published and received numerous awards. Equally important was his life spent in service toward the struggle for racial equality and civil rights. Experiencing redlining practices himself in California and Seattle, McAdoo served as the Seattle area president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), broadcasting a weekly radio show bringing attention to issues of discrimination. McAdoo advanced solutions for low cost housing and worked while serving as Chief Housing Advisor for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Jamaica. He also served in the General Service Administration in Washington D.C. and at its Northwest office in Auburn. Benjamin McAdoo's significance as a Black Citizen-Architect is noteworthy.

Mr. Murdock said Historic Seattle (HS) supports the nomination of the Queen Anne Pool building exterior, the interior volume, its structural systems and wood details, and the site. He said HS believes the Queen Anne Pool meets several designation criteria: It is associated in a significant way with the Forward Thrust program, a significant aspect of Seattle and Queen Anne neighborhood development history (C); it is a natatorium which embodies the style and period of 1970s modernism (D); and it is an important and outstanding public work by the architect (E). HS acknowledges that this would be one of Seattle's youngest landmarks, but encouraged the Board to take a long view in considering this resource; for criterion D, the pool surely embodies "the distinctive visible characteristics of an architectural style, period, or method of construction."

Richard Youel, a neighbor of the pool, and former employee of Benjamin McAdoo's spoke in support of nomination of Queen Anne Pool and said he sees it every day. He said he is a retired architect who worked at Mr. McAdoo's firm. He said he has clear memories of discussions of design development of the Queen Anne Pool. He said the design is sympathetic with the neighborhood context. He said the building functions with the natatorium up against the alley and locker and staff areas wrapped around it. He noted the originally glazed lobby entry and the visual connection to the natatorium. He said solid panel walls replaced the vandalized glass. He said the building was designed to be part of the neighborhood and noted how pleasantly it has always fitted in.

032024.2 MEETING MINUTES

January 17, 2024 Consideration deferred to a future meeting.

032024.3 CONTROLS & INCENTIVES

032024.31 The Showbox

1426 First Avenue

Request for extension

Jack McCullough requested an extension to August 21, 2024 and noted the need to update final analysis as the market has changed. He said the building is in shape and actively being used.

Ms. Sodt supported the extension.

Action: I move to defer consideration of Controls and Incentives for the Showbox, 1426 First Avenue until August 21, 2024.

MM/SC/DB/TC

8:0:0

Motion carried.

032024.32 White Garage

1915 Third Avenue

Request for extension

Jack McCullough said he is no longer involved with the Donahoe Building / Bergman Luggage building. He explained the intent to add residential floors to the White Garage and hoped to get project in front of ARC and board, and to get the MUP completed by August 2024. He requested an extension to August 21, 2024.

Ms. Sodt supported the request and noted a briefing packet has been received and she would schedule for ARC review.

Mr. Macleod said the extension request was reasonable.

Action: I move to defer consideration of Controls and Incentives for the White Garage, 1915 Third Avenue until August 21, 2024.

MM/SC/DB/TC

8:0:0

Motion carried.

032024.33 Donahoe Building / Bergman Luggage

1901-1911 3rd Avenue

Request for extension

Ms. Sodt said permits are in for occupation of the building by artists for use as art space on the first and second floors. She said the building will be occupied, and it looks clean and cared for. She said she thought the property and estate was still in probate. She requested an extension to August 21, 2024. She said there are no proposals for exterior alterations at this time.

Action: I move to defer consideration of Controls and Incentives for the Donahoe Building / Bergman Luggage, 19091-1911 3rd Avenue until August 21, 2024.

MM/SC/MI/DB

7:0:0

Motion carried. Mr. Norman lost his connection and it could not be re-established for the vote.

032024.4 NOMINATION

032024.41 Queen Anne Pool
1920 1st Avenue W

The Board members, presenters, City staff, and members of the audience started to experience a multitude of technical difficulties with the WebEx platform. The staff consulted with Seattle IT but they did not know how to address the problem. After an extended period of time trying to resolve the issue, the staff indicated that the meeting could not continue as they could not rely on everyone's ability to properly participate. Ms. Doherty said that she would work with Seattle Parks and Recreations and the Queen Historical Society (nominators) to reschedule consideration of the Queen Pool nomination application.

The meeting was adjourned.

032024.6 BOARD BUSINESS