



City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
53202

Meeting Minutes

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Ald. Robert Bauman, CHAIR

Jordan Morales, VICE CHAIR

Matt Jarosz, Patricia Keating Kahn, Nicholas Hans Robinson,

Sally Peltz, and Ann Pieper Eisenbrown

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Tuesday, December 16, 2025

3:00 PM

City Hall, Room 301-B

Special

Meeting Convened at 3:03 PM

Present: 5 - Pieper Eisenbrown, Jarosz, Bauman, Keating Kahn, Morales

Excused: 2 - Peltz, Robinson

1. [251276](#) Resolution granting permanent historic designation to the Second German Episcopal Church, part of the Brewers Hill National Register Historic District, at 140 W. Garfield Avenue, in the 6th Aldermanic District.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Alderman Bauman clarified that the sole purpose of this meeting is to determine whether this structure meets the ordinance criteria for historic designation.

Mr. Askin said the Second German Methodist Episcopal Church was originally built in 1887. In the 1920's it became the Epworth Methodist Church. The Church is in Sherman's Addition, platted in 1837. There has been no serious change in the foot print over time. Despite some renovations in the 1930's, it has not moved or had any major additions. The designation boundary has been brought up for this property as there are 3 buildings on this tax parcel. Staff is recommending a boundary for now of the existing lot lines North, South, West and East and the point that is 1 foot east of the eastern north point of the church. If a certified survey map is filed between now and Common Council, the Council can amend the file to reflect that boundary. The two houses are not been nominated and are not being considered.

Built in 1887 by architect Herman Paul Schnetzky, the Church open in 1888. In 1928 Epworth Methodist Church at 4th and Center merged with 2nd German. In 1939 Hugo Haeuser renovated the Church. Due to the demographic change and the neighborhood, the church was sold an All Black Baptist Congregation and the congregation left for the suburbs in 1963. As they integrated, Epworth got fairly involved with Civil Rights. They hosted Civil Rights speakers and planning sections for the Music MPS boycott in

1965. They were one of the founding members of Northcott Neighborhood House. They hosted James Farmer. They closed in 1972 due to a suspected arson fire. There are 2 architect involved in this property" Herman Paul Schnetzky and Hugo Haeuser, both from Germany. Staff recommends the historic designation based on f-1, f-5, f-6, f-9.

Mr. Morales moved, seconded by Mr. Jarosz, to open the public hearing. There were no objections.

Speakers:

Tim Baldwin - Auxiliary Director of the Historic Brewer Hills Association - In support. -2023 N 2nd Street.

Emma Rudd - Milwaukee Preservation Alliance – In support

Kole Kneppel – 2350 N 2nd St. - Executive director of St. Marcus Ministries – owns adjacent properties and would like the designation held so he can look at any structural issues.

Ryan Pattee – owner – would also like a pause on the designation. He wants to review the study report.

Mr. Morales moved, seconded by Mr. Jarosz, to closed the public hearing. There were no objections.

Held until the January 12th, 2026 HPC meeting.

A motion was made by Matt Jarosz, seconded by Jordan Morales, that this Resolution be HELD IN COMMITTEE. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Pieper Eisenbrown, Jarosz, Bauman, Keating Kahn, and Morales

No: 0

Excused: 2 - Robinson, and Peltz

2. Updates and announcements.

There were none.

Meeting adjourned: 3:28 PM

Carmen O Roman
Staff Assistant

This meeting can be viewed in its entirety through the City's Legislative Research Center at <http://milwaukee.legistar.com/calendar>.