



City of Boulder Planning

Landmarks Board

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www.boulderhistoricpreservation.net

Letter to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board from the Landmarks Board

March 14, 2019

Dear Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss the Harbeck-Bergheim House with you at the joint board meeting on February 21, 2019. We want to compliment you and staff on your thorough process and analysis to date. Our meeting was educational and productive.

We are writing to follow up on our discussion, and to voice our support in retaining the City's ownership of the Harbeck-Bergheim house and pursuing opportunities that meet the goals outlined in staff's report. We believe that the report demonstrates how the house and its property have a unique opportunity to meet the multiple objectives of historic preservation, neighborhood compatibility, public access, the BPR Master Plan, community use, community benefit and the fiscal responsibilities of City.

Retaining and leasing the Harbeck-Bergheim House to a long-term tenant that has been vetted through a competitive community process meets all these objectives. We believe that adequate time should be given to determine the best partnership and suggest a short-term lease during this time of exploration if there is concern about the costs associated with maintaining the property, to aid in bridging any financial gaps. If in the future, the City finds that ownership does not provide sufficient a revenue to properly preserve building then alternatives should be sought.

We also recommend placing a protective easement over character-defining features on the interior of the house. This would allow for long-term preservation of intact key interior details, as occupants and space planning may change to accommodate the next user and future users of the space.

Thank you for your consideration, diligence and commitment in determining a next chapter for the Harbeck-Bergheim's that honors this historic resource and benefits the community.

Cordially,

The Landmarks Board
Fran Sheets, Chair
Abby Daniels
John Decker, Vice & Acting Chair
William Jellick
Ronnie Pelusio