



Stephanie Rawlings-Blake
Mayor

PLANNING COMMISSION

Wilbur E. "Bill" Cunningham, Chairman

DRAFT STAFF REPORT



Thomas J. Stosur
Director

October 8, 2015

REQUEST: Landmark Designation: Greater Faith Baptist Church – 3000 Huntingdon Ave.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval.

STAFF: Lauren E. Schiszik

PETITIONER: Greater Faith Baptist Church

OWNER: Greater Faith Baptist Church

SITE/GENERAL AREA

Site Conditions:

The property consists of a three-bay wide, deep two-story Gothic Revival church (3000 Huntingdon Ave.) and it is adjacent to a two story brick rectory (3004 Huntingdon Ave.).

General Area:

Greater Faith Baptist Church is located on the northwest corner of the intersection of Huntingdon Ave. and W. 30th St. in Remington. It is located directly south of Wyman Park. Across the street to both the south and east are residential blocks of two story rowhouses. Located to the west is The Greenmount School.

HISTORY

There are no previous Planning Commission actions regarding this site.

CONFORMITY TO PLANS

The proposal is consistent with the City of Baltimore's Comprehensive Master Plan, specifically: PLAY Goal 1: Strengthen Stewardship of Historical and Cultural Resources; LIVE Objective 4: Protect and Enhance the Preservation of Baltimore's Historic Buildings and Neighborhoods.

ANALYSIS

This is the second public hearing for this structure as part of the Baltimore City Landmark designation process. The first hearing occurred when the CHAP Commission reviewed and recommended approval of Landmark designation on October 13, 2015. CHAP's staff report is attached to this staff report.

This Landmark Designation has been reviewed by the CHAP Commission and is consistent with planning initiatives.

The CHAP Commission found the following: The church today known as Greater Faith Baptist Church was constructed for Keen Memorial Methodist Protestant Church, one of the oldest churches in the Remington community, which served the community for 107 years. The church began in 1887, and served the Remington community through its ministry, but also through outreach to railroad workers, establishment of the neighborhood's YMCA, and other community events. The church was also active in the greater Methodist Church and its social activism, such as temperance in the early-20th century, and fighting racial discrimination in the mid-20th century. Today the church is home to the Greater Faith Baptist Church, and is the only historic church in Remington that is still extant and serving its original purpose today.

Based upon the historical context of the Greater Faith Baptist Church, the Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation found that it meets CHAP Landmark designation criteria for the following standards:

B. A Baltimore City Landmark may be a site, structure, landscape, building (or portion thereof), place, work of art, or other object which:

1. Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of Baltimore history;

Staff has notified the following of this action: Mayor and City Council, Baltimore AIA Chapter, Baltimore Heritage, Baltimore City Historical Society, Baltimore National Heritage Area, Preservation Maryland, Strong City Baltimore, Greater Remington Improvement Council, and the Remington Neighborhood Alliance.



Thomas J. Stosur
Director