MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 2010-03

A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING MUNICIPAL PARTICIPATION IN PIONEER SCHOOLHOUSE ROOF REPLACEMENT.

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Assembly ordained the Anchorage Historic Preservation Commission with the responsibility to recommend maintenance programs for municipally owned historic properties; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Historic Pioneer Schoolhouse is one of five municipally owned properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS, the Pioneer Schoolhouse was Anchorage’s first school, constructed in 1915; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality is responsible for major repairs of its historic properties; including the Pioneer Schoolhouse; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Women’s Club applied for and received a grant of $50,000 from Lowe’s Preservation Fund and the Lowe’s Charitable and Education Foundation in partnership with the National Trust for Historic Preservation for the design and replacement of the aging asphalt shingle roof and related repairs at the Anchorage Historic Pioneer Schoolhouse; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Women’s Club has worked with the Anchorage Historic Preservation Commission to obtain this grant; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Women’s Club obtained volunteer services from local architects and engineers to perform a condition assessment of the roof, exterior enclosure and the mechanical system; and

WHEREAS, the condition assessment revealed the absence of any insulation in the attic, a condition which requires a complete redesign of the roof structure due to the increased snow load occurring with the added insulation; and

WHEREAS, the building is losing heat through the unheated roof to a degree that the heating system is not able to maintain temperatures in the second floor during cold winter days; and

WHEREAS, just replacing the nearly forty-year-old asphalt shingles is simply not an option; and

WHEREAS, the $50,000 grant money is not sufficient to complete both the roof shingle replacement and the roof structure replacement, a total effort projected in excess of $100,000.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Anchorage Historic Preservation Commission that:

A. The Commission makes the following findings of fact:

   1. The Municipality is responsible for the maintenance of municipally owned historic properties.
   
   2. The condition report indicates that:
      a. The asphalt roof shingles that were installed over the original roll roofing have exceeded their life expectancy and are in need of replacement;
      b. The roof is in need of insulation which cannot be installed unless the roof structure is brought into compliance with current seismic and structural design requirements; and
      c. The building is in need of new attic ventilation to avoid condensation problems.
   
   3. The Municipality’s participation in funding and managing the repair contracts will be necessary to fix the roof.
   
   4. The $50,000 grant awarded by Lowe’s is available until December 2011.

B. The Commission recommends that:

   1. The Municipality provide bidding, contract oversight, and supplemental funding for project funds exceeding the $50,000 grant awarded to the Anchorage Women’s Club by Lowe’s for restoration of the Anchorage Historic Pioneer Schoolhouse structure; and
   
   2. The Municipality ensure that the work completed meets national guidelines for restoration of properties on the National Register.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Historic Preservation Commission this 23rd day of November 2010.

Jerry T. Weaver, Jr.  
Secretary

Julie Jessen  
Chair