



Whitewater Landmarks Commission

Minutes

Thursday, March 7, 2019 – 6:00 PM

Municipal Building, Community Room, 1st Floor

312 Whitewater Street, Whitewater, WI 53190

Call to Order

- Call to Order and roll call
Chairperson Blackmer called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM
Present: Patricia Blackmer, Suzanne Haselow, Daniel Richardson, Ricky Blucher, Jimmy Schulgit, Richard Helmick
Absent: Ken Kienbaum
Staff present: Chris Munz-Pritchard
Others present: None
- Approval of Agenda
MSC Schulgit/Haselow to approve the agenda as presented.
Ayes: Blackmer, Haselow, Richardson, Blucher, Schulgit, Helmick
Nays: None
Abstain: None
- Approval of the Minutes of December 6, 2018
MSC Schulgit/Haselow to approve the minutes of Dec. 6, 2018 as presented.
Ayes: Blackmer, Haselow, Richardson, Blucher, Schulgit, Helmick
Nays: None
Abstain: None
- Set date of next meeting – April 4, 2019
The next meeting of the Whitewater Landmarks Commission will be held on April 4, 2019 at 6:00 PM in the City Manager's Conference Room, 2nd floor, City Hall.
- Hear Citizen Comments: No formal Landmarks Commission Action will be taken during this meeting although issues raised may become a part of a future agenda. Participants are allotted a three-minute speaking period. Specific items listed on the agenda may not be

discussed at this time; however, citizens are invited to speak to those specific issues at the time the Commission discusses that particular item.

There were no citizen comments.

- Welcome to Ricky Blucher as a member of the Landmarks Commission
On behalf of the Landmarks Commission, Chairperson Blackmer introduced and welcomed Ricky Blucher as a member of the Commission.

TERRITORIAL OAK SITE HEARING AS A LOCAL LANDMARK

Chairperson Blackmer reported a brief history of the Territorial Oak and its significance to the City of Whitewater. She noted that the site where the oak stands and not the oak itself is being nominated as a local landmark. A full description of the nomination and its significance to Whitewater is available on the Landmarks Commission site on the city's web page. The Landmarks Commission voted unanimously to give the Territorial Oak Site the designation of a Local Landmark.

Reports

- Effigy Mounds Preserve (Helmick)
 - The Friends of the Effigy Mounds met for its annual social evening at Gus's Pizza Palace on Feb. 13, 2019. Members were reminded that this would be the last, formal meeting of the Friends. The group will go on hiatus until future notice.
 - A number of maintenance items still need to be completed at the Preserve. These would include the removing of downed trees, repairing damage to selected mounds, relocating the walking path, and placement of the marker boulders.
- Birge Fountain Committee (Blackmer)
The Birge Fountain Committee has not met. Blackmer did contact its chairperson, Jim Allen, to discuss the growing discoloration of the cherubs. Allen reported that the discoloration was due to water dripping off the bottom of the upper basin onto the cherubs. According to Allen, this discoloration will be easily cleaned off the cherubs this Spring when the fountain is reopened.
- Report on Possible Signage for corner of Jefferson and Starin Rd. (Kienbaum)
Munz-Prichard handed out 4 possible mark ups of signage that could be used. She asked commission members to review them and bring comments for the final selection at the next Landmarks meeting. She is consulting with the Park and Rec. Director on ordering various signs to be used throughout the city. Ordering a number of signs at the same time results in lower prices. Possible signs include ones for the site of the former Brickyard (corner of Jefferson St. and Starin Rd.), the City Water Tower (Starin Park), The Effigy Mounds Preserve, and the water mill (turbine) machinery (yet to be sited).

Unfinished Business

- Brochure reprint update (Richardson)

Richardson has consulted with the Jasmine Design Group in Whitewater. Subsequently, Jasmine Design has sent a number of options and prices for the printing of a new brochure. Richardson explained the various options and requested further direction from the Commission. Munz-Prichard suggested that the Commission should wait until she has had a chance to discuss possible funding for the printing with the City Manager. Richardson replied that the longer we wait, the more the cost would most likely be. The quotes he received were good for only 30 days and that has already past.

MSC Haselow/Schulgit authorizing Blackmer, after consultation with Munz-Pritchard, to determine which presented option for purchase. Blackmer called for a roll call vote.

Blackmer - aye

Haselow - aye

Richardson - aye

Blucher - aye

Schulgit - aye

Helmick - aye

- Ordinance to increase fines to National/State Register and Local Landmark structures (Munz-Pritchard/Schulgit)

Munz-Pritchard reported that the ordinance will be on the agenda of the March 19, 2019 City Council Agenda. Previously, the ordinance was approved at its first reading and then deferred to staff for more information at its second reading. The second reading occurred at the Council meeting on October 2, 2018. Discussion ensued. Munz-Prichard said she would talk to the City Manager to ensure that the item be placed on the Council's Agenda.

- Historic Home/Building Tour sponsored by the Landmarks Commission/Whitewater Federation of Women's Clubs Update (Blackmer)

Blackmer reported that the Landmarks Commission is partnering with the Whitewater Federation of Women's Clubs to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the designation of the City's Historic District. Also involved in the planning are representatives from the Arts Alliance, the city library, the Historical Society, the Tourism Council, and city staff.

Besides the tour, there will be a food truck rally at the library, an ice cream social and silent auction at the Bassett House, and a possible lemonade stand at the Arts Alliance.

Several of the Landmarked homes within the district will be available for visitors.

Docents will be on hand to guide the tours and give the history of the buildings.

Transportation is being planned to help participants with mobility concerns. Persons interested in volunteering to help at the event could contact Blackmer or Kori Oberle at the Woman's Federation. Blackmer recognized the work done by Kori Oberle, local historian, in coordinating this event.

- Effigy Mounds Walk in May (Haselow)

Due to maintenance and safety concerns, this event will be postponed. Haselow suggested that the Commission focus on an awareness campaign to help people know where the Effigy Mounds Preserve is, why it is important, and what could a visitor expect to see. Munz-Pritchard suggested that the city's PR Director, Kris Michelson, do a video segment of the Preserve as part of her Gems of Whitewater series. Blackmer enumerated

several previous and on-going efforts the Commission has made trying to familiarize people with the Preserve.

- Main Street Historic District Banner Project Grant awarded and discussion of project parameters going forward (Blackmer)

The Commission has received the 40 banners highlighting the Historic District. They will be placed on the light poles along both sides of Main Street from Fremont to Prairie Street. Blackmer reports that the city will have the banners displayed by May 1, 2019. Funds for the banners came from the Whitewater Community Foundation, the Tourism Council, and private donations. Blackmer again thanked Kori Oberle for all her work in seeing this project completed.

- Pratt Institute Signage update

The city will place the signage commemorating the Pratt Institute on the city terrace at the corner of Center and Fremont Streets. The Pratt Institute needs to formally donate the sign to the city prior to placement.

New Business

- Individual Commission members projects for April
 - Haselow: ideas to help raise city awareness of the Effigy Mounds Preserve
 - Richardson: brochure reprint, photo series of landmark buildings
 - Helmick: minutes
 - Blucher: familiarize himself with the Landmarks procedures, especially city ordinance 17.0
 - Blackmer: Banner project, May display case at the library
 - Munz-Pritchard: maintenance issues at the Preserve, ordinance review, brochure funding, sign project
- Suggested sites/structures to be designated as Local Landmarks
None at this time.

Future Agenda Items

None at this time.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Blackmer at 6:58 PM.

Respectively submitted,

R. Helmick, secretary