

# AGENDA

Whitewater Landmarks Commission  
Thursday March 7, 2013 - 6 PM  
City Manager's Conference Room  
312 Whitewater Street, Whitewater, WI 53190

## CALL TO ORDER

- I. Call to Order and roll call
- II. Approval of agenda and possible rearrangement
- III. Approval of minutes of February 7, 2013
- IV. Set date and time of next meeting - Thursday, April 4, 2013 - 6:00 P.M
- V. 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.

## REPORTS

- VI. Report from the Friends of the Mounds - FOTEM (Helmick)  
FOTEM meeting, March 9, 10 AM - Irvin L. Young Library
- VII. Update on restoration of Whitewater Passenger Depot (Marshall)
- VIII. Update on Walking Tour Brochure (Wendt & Christ)
- IX. Update on Birge Fountain (Loomer)
- X. Update on Local Landmarks/Main Street Historic District Brochures (Loomer, Marshall & Christ)
- XI. Update on Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve Preservation and Maintenance Plan (Helmick)

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- XII. Status of FREE LIBRARY history panel for White Memorial Library (Loomer)
- XIII. Implementing 17.08.040 of Title 17 re city-owned historically significant personal property.
- XIV. Corrections to Architectural and Historical Survey of Whitewater, WI 53190 (Marshall)
- XV. Local Landmarks Framed Certificates
- XVI. Drumlin Hall - possible historic preservation (Haselow)

## NEW BUSINESS

- XVII. Wisconsin Association of Historic Preservation Commissions Spring Conference - April 27
- XVIII. Wisconsin Historic Preservation and Archeology Month - May
- XIX. Designation of local landmarks - city or private properties - ideas
- XX. Landmarks Commission Annual Preservation Activities Report for state of Wisconsin (Christ)

## FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- XXI. Plaques for Whitewater sites on the National Register of Historic Places

## GOOD OF THE ORDER

## ADJOURNMENT

- XXII. Call to Adjourn

## Minutes

Whitewater Landmarks Commission  
Thursday February 7, 2013 - 6 PM  
City Manager's Conference Room  
312 Whitewater Street, Whitewater, WI 53190

### CALL TO ORDER

- I. Call to Order and roll call - Welcome new city council representative  
The meeting was called to order at by Christ at 6:03 PM.  
Present: Carol Christ, Linda Loomer, Nancy Wendt, Richard Helmick, Andrew Crone  
Absent: Allan Marshall  
Staff present: Latisha Birkland
- II. Approval of agenda and possible rearrangement  
MSC Loomer/Wendt to approve the agenda as printed.  
Ayes: Christ, Loomer, Wendt, Helmick, Crone  
No: None  
Abstain: None  
(Suzanne Haeslow arrived at 6:08 PM)
- III. Approval of minutes of December 6, 2012.  
MSC Haeslow/Christ to approve the minutes of Dec. 06, 2012.  
Ayes: Christ, Loomer, Wendt, Helmick, Crone, Haeslow  
No: None  
Abstain: None
- IV. Set date and time of next meeting  
The next meeting will be held Thursday, March 7, 2013 at 6:00 P.M. in the city manager's conference room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, city hall.
- V. 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's comments.

### REPORTS

- VI. Report from the Friends of the Mounds - FOTEM (Helmick)  
Marianne Scott is planning to hold a meeting at the Irvin Young Library. Time and date to be announced.  
FOTEM Newsletter: Christ would like to resign as the editor of the newsletter. If anyone is interested they should contact her (262-745-9676).
- VII. Update on restoration of Whitewater Passenger Depot (Marshall)  
Birkland reported that prior approval for the modifications have been approved by the state. Only two, minor projects remain to be completed. Official approval is expected by March. Grand opening is planned for April 28 in conjunction with the Whitewater Arts Alliance's Art Walk.
- VIII. Update on Walking Tour Brochure (Wendt)  
There is some confusion concerning the differences between the Walking Tour and the Tour of Landmarks. Christ will call Alan Luckett for more information and clarification.
- IX. Update on Birge Fountain (Loomer)  
Roy Nosek is planning a meeting for this March.

- X. Update on Local Landmarks/Main Street Historic District Brochures (Loomer, Marshall & Christ)  
Work is progressing. Christ passed out the proposed descriptions for 11 of the landmarks. Discussion ensued. The next step will be to decide on a design layout that will accommodate all 19 properties with photographs and short descriptions of the properties.
- XI. Update on Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve Preservation and Maintenance Plan (Helmick)  
Matt Amundson has reported that the 2013, Park & Recreation has budgeted \$3,600 for improvements at the Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve. This is currently intended for native grasses, perennial plantings, and the conversion of mounds to short stature prairie grass. A priority list of work projects for the preserve this summer:
1. Continue to battle invasive plant species. Staff may need to look at chemical treatment options to apply on the remaining mounds this Spring. Input on this is needed from FOTEM & Park Board.
  2. Conversion of mounds from turf grass to short-stature prairie grass
  3. Realign the trail entrance
  4. Improve the green space off of Indian Mounds Parkway – input needed from FOTEM & Park Board (options included an entrance garden, trees, and prairie grasses in an effort to tie the entrance to the rest of the site).

It should be noted that the Park & Recreation Board is charged with the overall maintenance of the preserve.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- XII. Status of FREE LIBRARY history panel for White Memorial Library (Loomer)  
If the commission is interested in continuing this project, it needs to appoint another representative. Christ will talk with Marianne Scott for more information.
- XIII. Implementing 17.08.040 of Title 17 re: city-owned, historically significant, personal property.  
Members questioned the use of “personal” in the statute. An inventory needs to be created. Christ will continue to work on this.
- XIV. Corrections to Architectural and Historical Survey of Whitewater, WI 53190 (Marshall)  
No report.
- XV. Local Landmarks Framed Certificates  
There are 7 certificates that still need to be delivered to the owners of landmarks. Members agreed to deliver them to the owners.
- XVI. National Park Service Annual Products Report for CLG's  
Christ has tried to contact the park service for more information. It has not responded. She will continue to fill out the report.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- XVII. Use of Chrome books for Landmarks meetings  
The Chrome books are to be used in the downstairs, community room. The landmarks Commission may use them. They are not suitable to take minutes but can be used to access the internet and city records. Commissioners decided to continue meeting upstairs in the city manager’s conference room.

- XVIII. Wisconsin Historic Preservation and Archeology Month – May  
Christ asked members to bring ideas to the next meeting.
- XIX. Drumlin Hall - possible historic preservation  
The university is currently renovating the dining hall. According to a report in the Janesville Gazette, the hall is headed for “historic preservation status.” Haeslow will contact the director of dining services to get more information.
- XX. Landmarks Commission Annual Preservation Activities Report for state of Wisconsin  
Christ distributed the annual report from 2011 and requested assistance from Birkland to complete the report for this past year.

#### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- XXI. Future designations of city-owned properties as local landmarks  
Possible nominations: Peschere House, the old water tower in Starin Park.
- XXII. Plaques for Whitewater sites on the National Register of Historic Places

#### **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

- XXIII. Call to Adjourn  
MSC Loomer/Helmick to adjourn the meeting.  
Ayes: Christ, Loomer, Wendt, Helmick, Crone, Haeslow  
No: None  
Abstain: None  
The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted  
Richard Helmick, Secretary Landmarks Commission

**WHITEWATER LANDMARKS COMMISSION  
ANNUAL PRESERVATION ACTIVITIES REPORT  
(January – December, 2012)**

The City of Whitewater Landmarks Commission met 13 times between January, 2011 and December, 2011. There were 11 monthly meetings (July was cancelled due to a lack of a quorum).  
One special meeting to plan for Historic and Archeological Month activities on April 18, 2012.  
One special meeting to approve the restoration of the Whitewater Passenger Depot on June 28, 2012.  
One annual training session for commissioners (immediately following the regular September meeting).

The 3 requests listed below were approved for the Whitewater Passenger Depot:

Addition: 0  
Chimneys and Tuck pointing : 1  
Demolitions: 0  
Fences and retaining walls: 1  
Garage repair/construction: 0  
Gutters/fascia/soffit:  
Handrails and Porches: 0  
Local Landmark Designations: 0  
Ramps/Sidewalks/Steps/Driveways: 1  
Roof Repair: 0  
Signs and miscellaneous items:  
Siding: 0  
Windows and Doors:

The Commission currently monitors 19 individually listed Landmarks as well as the Main Street Historic District. In 2008, the Commission reviewed and accepted the Architectural and Historic Survey of City of Whitewater properties.

In 2012 Landmarks Commissioners. . .

January

- Attended a meeting of the Wisconsin Inter-tribal Repatriation Committee to improve communication on the preservation of the Maples Mound Group.

February

- Received a petition for a rescission of a landmark. Subsequently it was withdrawn in August.

March

- Attended the Wisconsin Burial Sites Protection Board Meeting.

April

- Attended Wisconsin Association of Historical Preservation Commissions in Madison, WI.
- Began work on a new local landmarks brochure.

May

- Worked with the city of Whitewater to issue proclamations on May 8 honoring both Wisconsin Historical Preservation Month and Wisconsin Archeological Month.
- Presented a PowerPoint (Annual Activities report) to the Whitewater City Council on May 8.
- Began working with City Neighborhood Services Manager who will now attend Landmarks meetings to aid in coordination of Landmarks and city staff.

## FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND ARCHEOLOGICAL MONTH:

- Hosted a talk by Kurt Sampson from the WI Archeological Society on the history of the Whitewater Effigy Mounds on May 12, 2012 which was followed by a tour of the mounds.
- Hosted a reception honoring all local landmarks on May 3, 2012 – issuing framed certificates to current owners.
- Developed a PowerPoint of the local landmarks which was shown at the reception and is now available for viewing on the city website.
- Put together an educational display featuring the Landmarks Commission at the Irvin L. Young Memorial Library.
- Educated the community by showing videos of past work of the commission on Saturdays in May on Whitewater Community Television.
- Hosted a second mounds tour on May 23<sup>rd</sup> by local professor of environmental geography at UW – Whitewater, Renae Prell-Mitchell, focusing on the oak savanna, native plants, invasive species, reasons people chose this site for a gathering place and how they interacted with the natural species in this area. (Due to rain, this was rescheduled for June 23<sup>rd</sup>)
- Worked with City Neighborhood Services manager and city staff to post an interactive tutorial and Google map of local landmarks on city website.

### June

- Approved the plans for the restoration of the Whitewater Passenger Depot.

### July

- Received notification from WisDOT that all 3 stipulations of the MOA for the Rockefeller House demolition had been completed.

### August

- Wrote a letter to the Wisconsin Historical Society National Register Coordinator in support of listing the Whitewater Passenger Depot on the National Register of Historic Places.

### September

- Held an annual training session in September to review the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring and Reconstructing properties. This included giving commissioners a handbook on the four treatment approaches. The local landmark ordinance regarding rescissions and voluntary restrictive covenants was also reviewed.

### October

- Attended the WI Archeological Society fall meeting.
- Were interviewed for an article on the Whitewater Effigy Mounds in the Watertown Daily Times.

### December

- Approved a plan review application and approval form to be used for construction or alteration of an existing landmark.

## **Looking ahead to 2013, the Whitewater Landmarks Commission is planning:**

\*In 2013, the commission is planning on completing and printing a new local landmarks brochure.

\*Put up an educational display at the Irvin L. Young Memorial Library.

\*Plan activities for Wisconsin Historical Preservation Month and Archeological Preservation Month.

\*Develop an informational panel documenting the history of the White Memorial FREE Library.

\*Look into designating a local landmark.