

**Minutes of the Whitewater  
Landmarks Commission  
Thursday, December 1, 2016 – 6:00 PM  
Municipal Building, City Manager’s Conference Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
312 Whitewater Street, Whitewater, WI 53190**

**Call to Order**

- **Call to Order and roll call** – The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Blackmer. Present: Blackmer, Oberle, Helmick, Kienbaum, Richardson, Haselow. Absent: Singer. Also Present: City Clerk Smith.
- **Approval of Agenda** – M/S Helmick/Oberle. Approved by unanimous voice vote.
- **Approval of Minutes** – October 6/7, 2016 and November 3, 2016 - M/S Helmick/Oberle. Approved by unanimous voice vote.
- **Set date and time of next meeting** – **Thursday, January 5, 2017- 6:00 PM**

**Reports**

- **Birge Fountain Report** (Kienbaum/Richardson/Nass/Allen) – Birge Fountain Committee has not met. Contact A. Luckett to have them meet. No further report – Birge Fountain representatives not in attendance as planned.
- **City acquisition of the historical machine parts of the old Main St. mill** (Nass/Blackmer) – More information will be coming. Downtown Whitewater working on this acquisition.
- **Report on Whitewater Historic Homes Photo Project** (Richardson) – Dan Richardson is still taking photos. It is a huge task and it will be awhile longer.
- **Meetings of the Burial Preservation Acts Committee** (Helmick/Oberle) - December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting pending.
- **Walton Oaks, 227 S. Boone Court and Moksnes House Nominations as Local Landmarks** (Helmick/Blackmer) – Urban Forestry is supportive of having Walton Oaks declared a Landmark. Owner of property at Boone Court not interested in having property declared a Landmark at this time. Virginia Epps, owner of Moksnes house on Highland St., is receptive to applying for Landmark status of her home.
- **Brickyard Park (Brickyard Historic Area) as a Local Landmark** (Kienbaum) – Kienbaum will get together with City Clerk Smith to do some research. Clerk has not been available due to election work.
- **Effigy Mounds Preserve Report** (Adopt a Mound Program/Mounds Maintenance) (Oberle/Helmick) – Cleaning completed and Adopt a Mound Program going well.
- **Report on Budget availability for purchase of inventory tags** (Singer) – Singer not present, but it is understanding that \$1500 was budgeted for Landmarks Commission use.
- **Report on Proposal for Councilpersons to become automatic committee/commission chairs** (Singer) – No report – Singer not present.
- **Library Board meeting** regarding proposed library expansion project (Blackmer) – Blackmer and Oberle to present information regarding Landmark designations on properties to Library Board at their December meeting.
- **Inventory tags for city owned historical property** (Haselow) – Haselow provided samples of several tags. Group agreed that the least intrusive versions would be best. Concerns about glue and possible negative effects on artifacts discussed.

**Unfinished Business**

- **Mounds Preserve signage project update** (Oberle/Kienbaum) – Thanks to Kori Oberle, plaques have now been ordered. More information coming at a future date.
- **Haselow’s Project regarding Local Landmarks** introduced to public, report on venue, date, etc. – Coloring contest still in planning stages.
- **Grant Proposal for Survey of Effigy Mounds Preserve** (Oberle) – Oberle has been working hard on

preparation of the grant application for the survey. Thank you, Kori. Now we wait to see whether the grant submission is successful.

- **Addition of recent Local Landmarks to brochure(s)/City Website** (Richardson/Smith) – M/S Helmick/Oberle to approve language describing Downtown Armory for brochure/website. Approved unanimously. Language to be added to brochure and website. Interactive map to be updated.

### **New Business**

- **Birge Fountain protection/preservation** – Concerns about the current condition of Birge Fountain expressed. It was thought that Nass and Singer would be present to discuss concerns. A lining (not an insert – a “painted on” finish appears to be wearing off, although it was placed on the fountain only six months ago. Discussion delayed.
- **White Memorial Building change in awnings request** – Special meeting to be held December 7<sup>th</sup> to hear request from Whitewater Arts Alliance, Lessee of building.
- **Public education regarding Local Landmark status** and designation of Local Landmark status for neighborhoods – Blackmer is working on this. It was suggested that out-of-town Realtors be notified, too.
- **Revision of City Landmarks Ordinance** regarding decertification/demolition committee to be formed for ordinance revision – Smith and Oberle volunteered to work on after January 1<sup>st</sup>.
- **Approval of letter notifying realtors of residential/business Local Landmarks** – Blackmer working on.
- **Approval of thank you letter to Local Landmark owners**

Future Agenda Items – None.

Good of the Order – None.

Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele R. Smith

**Future Agenda Items**

**Good of the Order**

**Adjournment**