



AGENDA

Whitewater Landmarks Commission

Thursday, August 4, 2016 – 6:00 PM

Municipal Building, City Manager's Conference Room, 2nd Floor

312 Whitewater Street, Whitewater, WI 53190

Call to Order

- Call to Order and roll call: Introduction of Michele Smith as a Commission Member
Chairperson Blackmer called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.
Present: Patricia Blackmer, Kori Oberle, Ken Kienbaum, Dan Richardson,
Patrick Singer, Richard Helmick

Absent: Suzanne Haselow
Staff present: Michele Smith
Guests: Carol Christ, Jim Allan
- Approval of Agenda
MSC Richardson/Singer to approve the agenda as posted.
Ayes: Blackmer, Oberle, Kienbaum, Richardson, Singer, Helmick
Nays: None
Abstain: None
- Approval of Minutes – July 7, 2016
MSC Singer/Oberle to approve the minutes of July 7, 2016.
Ayes: Blackmer, Oberle, Kienbaum, Richardson, Singer, Helmick
Nays: None
Abstain: None
- Set date and time of next meeting – Thursday, September 1, 2016 - 6:00 PM
The next meeting of the Whitewater Landmarks Commission will be held on September 1, 2016 at 6:00 PM in the City Manager's Conference Room, 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.

Reports

- **Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve (Helmick/Oberle)**

The Friends of the Effigy Mounds Preserve held a meeting on June 13 at the city library to hear Dr. George Christenson's presentation. On July 15, a tour of the mounds was conducted by Blackmer, Richardson, and Rob Nurre. Twenty-two people took part in the tour and asked a variety of questions. New members were signed up for the Friends group. The Adopt-a-Mound Program was also discussed with the group. The paths were nicely mowed. The next meeting of the Friends group has not been scheduled as yet. Hopefully, Dr. Amy Rosenberg will be able to present for that meeting. The Urban Forestry Commission has contacted the Friends to co-host a future program. Blackmer has heard from Chuck Nass regarding the incursions by the city's mowers across portions of the mounds. Chuck has encouraged Blackmer to flag the path which should be followed by the mowers. Oberle asked if Amundson has been informed of this. Blackmer volunteered to contact Amundson. Discussion ensued.
- **August 2nd Meeting of Wisconsin Legislative Study Committee revisiting burial site preservation laws (Helmick/Oberle)** Both Helmick & Oberle attended the Committee's first meeting on August 2 at the State Capitol; (Oberle is reporting since Helmick is taking meeting minutes.) Oberle shared the Committee's website which includes download-able content shared at the meeting, as well as meeting minutes and committee's charge <http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/misc/lc/study/2016/1493>. She also reviewed the Committee members: Representative Loudenbeck (Chair); Representative R. Brooks (Vice-Chair); Representative Considine; Senator Erpenbach; Conrad Goodkind; William Green Ph.D., RPA; David J. Grignon; Dr. Kira E. Kaufmann; Justin Oeth; E. Glen Porter III; Bill Quackenbush; Robert Shea; Chad Wuebben. She also shared the dates of the remaining 3 meetings, all at the State Capitol: September 8, 2016 Meeting 10:00 a.m.; Wednesday, October 5, 2016; and Thursday, November 10, 2016, which Oberle intends to attend. Commissioners were encouraged to visit the web site and review the materials there. The Committee is expected to present final language revisions to the burial sites law by the close of its November 10 meeting. Their work will go to the Legislature in early 2017.
- **Birge Fountain Report: Basin repair and lighting (Kienbaum)**

Kienbaum reports that nothing has been done. Blackmer said Chuck Nass told her the fountain will be drained next week so that the basin can be repaired. Allan informed the Commission that the basin does not have any holes in it. It is cast iron and is in need of some maintenance. Russ Walton will place a liner in the basin to prevent any further deterioration. More research on the lighting will take place.
- **Report on Whitewater Historic Homes Photo Project (Richardson)**

No report. Work continues. Oberle suggested this might make a good public program at a future date. Christ suggested new photos could be sent to the state for its records.
- **Full moon walk at Effigy Mounds Preserve (Haselow)**

The program will be on September 16, beginning at 7:00 PM and ending by 8:00 PM. Blackmer reported that the city manager will be reviewing the proposal and deciding whether or not it can go forward. Volunteers will be needed to lead the tours. Blackmer suggested that the Friends group could help with this. Blackmer asked Smith for the addresses of the neighbors contiguous to the mounds in order to send them some information regarding the tour.
- **Budgetary concerns to Cameron Clapper (Singer)**

Clapper is just beginning to put together the budget process. More information will be forthcoming.

Unfinished Business

- Mounds Preserve signage project update (Oberle/Kienbaum)

The text has been approved. The boulders have been selected. Oberle displayed a number of plaque designs for the Commission to consider. Discussion ensued. A beveled edge border with satin finish was picked by the commissioners. New Century Schoolbook font was chosen for the text. Oberle suggested that the plaques be pre-drilled and the needed hardware accompanying the delivery of the plaques. The mounting method chosen is labeled RM – “Rosettes, Machine Screws, and Extension Sleeves.” The plaques will be bronze with a dark bronze background. The text will be lighter, matching the border.
- Acquisition of GIS/LIDAR by Walworth County (Richardson)

Nothing new has happened at the county level. Richardson contacted Albert Labeau at the National Effigy Mounds. Labeau will be sending pictures of LIDAR used at the National Effigy Mounds. Hopefully, this process could be used at the Effigy Mounds Preserve to more clearly show the mound borders as well as other information.
- Research of/naming of/possible plaque information for Brickyard Park (Kienbaum)

Kienbaum will be meeting with Carol Cartwright tomorrow to review information.
- Repair of Interactive City Map on web site
Smith asked for more information regarding the problem. Discussion ensued. Smith will contact Scott Weberpal to see what can be done.
- Addition of recent Local Landmarks to brochure(s) (Richardson)

Richardson briefly summarized information. He distributed some suggestions for the Commissioners to consider, edit, and come back with ideas on wording to the next meeting.
- Lyman Wight Octagon House garage addition oversight update
No report.
- Cases for the original Birge Cherubs built by DPW
Blackmer has notified Chuck Nass to go ahead with the project.
- Proclamation regarding burial site preservation law
Blackmer shared a proclamation she had drafted intended for the Common Council and City Manager to adopt and send on to Wisconsin’s Legislative Study Committee reviewing the state’s burial site preservation law (1985). Oberle stated that the proclamation as drafted calls for maintaining the exact language of the current law. The director of the Wisconsin Historical Society, Ellsworth Brown, who administers this law by statute, suggested several procedural changes to the current law during his presentation at the Committee’s first meeting. Oberle suggested the draft proclamation be held for review and revision pending subsequent Committee meetings. Because the law is 30 years old and technology has changed over time, it may be advantageous to change and update specific portions of the law’s language. She also encouraged concerned Commissioners to share their concerns with their elected State Legislature officials since they will ultimately be voting on changes to the law. Singer agreed and said the draft proclamation should be retained for future review.
- 10th Annual Local History and Historic Preservation Conference Attendees (Oct. 21-22)

This will happen at the WI Dells. Blackmer and Richardson are planning to attend. If anyone else is interested, they should contact Blackmer by August 20 in order to get the discounted price.
- Haselow’s Project regarding Local Landmarks introduced to elementary school students

Haselow would initiate the project during the year and have it ready for the schools by May.

New Business

- Individual Commission members' action plan for September
Kienbaum: research and report on the Brickyard Park.
Oberle: order signage plaques and arrange for the delivery of boulders at the Effigy Mounds Preserve; draft the grant application for surveying the effigy mounds.
Richardson: continue the photo project; report on any LIDAR progress.
Smith: contact Weberpal to help fix the website's interactive map; make conference reservations.
Blackmer: prepare a draft, press release for the full moon walk at the Effigy Mounds Preserve; work with Oberle on the grant proposal.
Helmick: contact the owner of 227 S. Boone Ct. regarding the possible listing of the property as a city landmark.
- In-service regarding Whitewater City Landmarks Ordinance for city staff and Landmarks Commission members at September Meeting
For the beginning of the September meeting, Blackmer would like to focus on the city ordinance regarding Landmarks. Neighborhood Services personnel were invited to attend.
- List of potential Local Landmarks for consideration by the Commission
Blackmer distributed a list of proposed buildings to be considered. Discussion ensued. Blackmer and Helmick will investigate some of the properties. Oberle called attention to two properties in the Historic District that may be in danger of demolition.
- Recommendations for educational curricular development regarding the Effigy Mounds Preserve
Blackmer researched this. She suggested that more research is needed.

Future Agenda Items

Historic Preservation grant for the survey of the EMP

Good of the Order

Blackmer asked commissioners to review the city ordinance regarding landmarks, especially the section on delisting a landmark.

Christ commented on how well she thought the Commission was working.

Adjournment

Blackmer adjourned the meeting at 7:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

R. Helmick, secretary