

WHITEWATER LANDMARKS COMMISSION

May 6, 2009

Chair, Mariann Scott called to order the monthly meeting of the Whitewater Landmarks Commission at 5:09 P.M. in the White Room at the Irvin L. Young Memorial Library.

Election of Officers

Patrick Singer nominated Mariann Scott for Chairperson. Mariann accepted the nomination. Nominations were closed, and Mariann Scott was elected by a unanimous ballot. Patrick Singer nominated Rick Daniels for Vice Chairperson. Rick accepted the nomination. Nominations were closed, and Rick Daniels was elected by a unanimous ballot. Kathleen Haas Lashley nominated Carol Christ for Secretary. Carol accepted the nomination. Nominations were closed, and Carol Christ was elected by a unanimous ballot.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken with the following members present: Patrick Singer, Kimberly Krebs, Kathleen Haas Lashley, Linda Loomer, Rick Daniels and Carol Christ. Guest – Wallace McDonell, city attorney

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Patrick Singer moved to approve the May 6, agenda as printed; second by Linda Loomer. Motion carried. The April 1, 2009 minutes were approved on a motion by Linda Loomer. Second by Kathleen Haas Lashley. Motion carried.

Next Landmark's Commission Meeting

The next meeting date is set for June 3, at 5 P.M in the City Manager's Conference Room at the Whitewater Municipal Building.

Oath of Office

The Commission discussed the oath of office. It was agreed that taking an oath of office for appointees was unnecessary. At the May 19th City Council Meeting, The Landmarks Commission will introduce a motion to repeal the ordinance requiring committee members to take an oath of office.

Revision of Landmarks Commission Ordinance

Mr. McDonell presented a final draft of the proposed amendment to Title 17 of the Whitewater Municipal Code, by adding: "The Landmarks Commission may designate property as city-owned historically significant personal property if it found by the Landmarks Commission to have special historic, archaeological or aesthetic character. "City owned historically significant personal property' means personal property owned by the City of Whitewater that is deemed by the Commission to have special historical, archaeological or aesthetic character such that it is in the City of Whitewater's best interest to preserve, protect and safeguard it."

After discussion at the March 4, 2009 Commission meeting, Mr. McDonell added the following to the proposed ordinance: (1)"Upon designation of personal property as city-owned historically significant personal property, The Landmarks Commission may take reasonable actions to notify the general public and city officers and employees of the designation. These actions may include, but are not limited to, creating a registry of said property to be maintained by the city clerk, the labeling of the property by a placard or otherwise or the safe storage of the property". (2) Any officer or employee of the City of Whitewater who becomes aware of any personal property that may qualify as city-owned historically significant personal property is encouraged to immediately notify the Landmarks Commission of the existence of said property". The city may override a recommendation of the Landmarks Commission but only after it has heard the Landmarks Commissions recommendations.

Carol Christ moved to recommend that City Council adopt the proposed amendment to Title 17 of the Whitewater Municipal Code. Second by Kathleen Haas Lashley. Motion carried.

Jefferson County Historic Site Preservation Commission's 1st Annual History Conference – April 17

Carol Christ and Mariann Scott gave a summary of the programs presented .

Whitewater Depot Museum

Kathleen Haas Lashley reported that Ithsmus Architecture, Inc of Madison has been selected for the depot restoration project. As soon as there is DOT approval, a contract will be issued.

Wisconsin Historic Preservation and Archaeology Month

On Tuesday, May 5, City Manager Kevin Brunner read proclamations at the Common Council meeting designating May as Archaeology Month and Historic Preservation Month. Mariann Scott announced the following tours:

Mounds Tour – Mark Kuhnke will conduct a tour of Indian Mounds Park in Whitewater on Sat. May 23, at 10:30 A.M. Mariann will take care of the publicity for this event.

On Monday, May 11, at 6 P.M. the Park and Recreation Board, Chuck Nass from the Forestry Division and members of Landmarks Commission will tour Indian Mounds Park and talk about care of the park and its adherence to any guidelines set by the Ho Chunk Nation, which has been designated as a caretaker of Indian mounds in southeastern Wisconsin. The Landmarks Commission will discuss the outcome of the tour at the June 3rd meeting.

Downtown Historical Walking Tour - Carol Cartwright will conduct a walking tour of downtown historic buildings on Sat. May 30 at 1 P.M. Participants will meet at the Main Street Shops.

James and Ella Rockefeller House

The James and Ella Rockefeller House at 837 South Janesville Road, owned by Russell Walton, could either be moved or demolished due to a Highway 59 intersection change. The Landmarks Commission is keeping close tabs on the situation. A map of the proposed highway rerouting will be obtained from the city manager.

Wisconsin Historical Society CAMP Workshop

There is still time to register for the free Commission Assistance and Mentoring Program Workshop on May 29-30.

Architectural and Historical Survey of Whitewater Wisconsin

The discussion of recommendations from the survey will be postponed until the June 3 meeting.

Future Agenda Items

- A. "Free Library" sign - White Memorial Building
- B. White Building Lanterns
- C. Stone Pillars – Starin Park

Adjournment

Kimberly Krebs moved for adjournment. Second by Kathleen Haas Lashley. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:19 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Christ
Secretary