

## WHITEWATER LANDMARKS COMMISSION

June 10, 2009

Chair, Mariann Scott called to order the monthly meeting of the Whitewater Landmarks Commission at 6:35 P.M. in the City Manager's Conference Room of the Whitewater Municipal Building.

### Roll Call

Roll call was taken with the following members present: Patrick Singer, Kimberly Krebs, Linda Loomer, Kathleen Haas Lashley, Rick Daniels and Carol Christ. Guest – Michelle Dujardin, recreation and community events programmer for the Parks and Recreation Dept.

### Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Patrick Singer moved to approve the June 10, agenda as printed; second by Kimberly Krebs. Motion carried. The May 6, 2009 minutes were approved on a motion by Patrick Singer; second by Linda Loomer. Motion carried.

### Next Landmark's Commission Meeting

The next meeting date is set for July 1, 2009, at 5 P.M in the City Manager's Conference Room at the Whitewater Municipal Building.

### Birge Fountain Committee

It was noted that Linda Loomer was nominated in December to serve as the Landmarks Commission representative to the Birge Fountain Committee, which meets twice yearly.

### Oath of Office

At the May 19<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting, The Landmarks Commission introduced a motion to repeal the ordinance requiring committee members to take an oath of office. It was passed by the city council. The council felt that it would be more beneficial to have committee members educated on how to serve their respective committees. Most recently the council passed an ordinance stating that any committee member who misses three consecutive meetings would automatically be placed on the council agenda for review.

### Revision of Landmarks Commission Ordinance

At the May 19<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting, the Council adopted the proposed amendment to Title 17 of the Whitewater Municipal Code which revised the Landmarks Commission ordinance by giving the commission the right to designate "city-owned historically significant personal property".

### Whitewater Depot Museum

Kathleen Haas Lashley reported that Ithsmus Architecture, Inc of Madison continues to wait for DOT approval, at which time a contract will be issued. On Thursday, June 11, at 6:30 PM there will be a kickoff fundraising meeting at the Irvin Young Memorial Library.

### Whitewater Effigy Mounds

Mounds Tour – Mark Kuhnke conducted a tour of Indian Mounds Park in Whitewater on Sat. May 23, at 10:30 A.M. Fourteen people were in attendance to hear an informative presentation.

Mariann did some research on the history of the mounds and their acquisition by the city of Whitewater. In 1920 Charles E. Brown first documented them in his survey of mounds in the state of Wisconsin.

There was discussion on the current condition of the park and a survey of the boundaries. It is under the guise of the Landmarks Commission to protect archaeological sites per Municipal Code 217.04.010: "It is the policy of the city that the protection, enhancement, perpetuation and use of archeological sites, geological formations and structures of special character or special historical interest or value is necessary to the prosperity and well-being of the people." It was noted that it is our

responsibility to find answers to questions raised and also to further public education. It was agreed to tour the mounds at a future meeting and also contact state archaeologist, John Broihahn on how to go about conducting a survey of the mounds

#### 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. The Commission is still waiting for a map of the proposed highway rerouting from the city manager.

#### Wisconsin Historical Society CAMP Workshop

Mariann Scott and Carol Christ attended the free Commission Assistance and Mentoring Program Workshop on May 29-30. They gave a report on the workshop. Several items need to be addressed by this commission including a set of by-laws, design guidelines, and certificates of appropriateness (COA). It was suggested that the Commission contact Downtown Whitewater for input on their guidelines. The Wisconsin State Historical Society has developed a Commission Training Module which will serve as a guide for commissioners (including necessary forms) and will be on the WHS website by October, 2010. The paperwork is already completed for the website and the state is currently waiting for funding to develop the site. It was felt that waiting over a year would not be beneficial and that we should contact Rick Bernstein re hard copies of the material.

Linda Loomer moved that we ask the city council for \$35 to join the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions (NAPC). Second by Kathleen Haas Lashley. Motion unanimously approved.

#### Whitewater Hotel Nomination to the State and National Registers of Historic Places

All members received paperwork from city manager, Kevin Brunner, regarding the Whitewater Hotel's nomination to the State and National Registers. Approval is up to the state and the most input we can have is to send a letter of support. Kimberly Krebs moved that we send a letter to Daina Penkiunas of the WHS in support of the nomination. Second by Patrick Singer. Motion passed unanimously. Linda Loomer volunteered to compose and mail letter.

#### Stone Pillars – Starin Park

Matt Amundsen, director of Parks and Recreation addressed our concerns regarding movement of stone pillars to the current entrance. He agreed that the new placement would make sense but there currently are no funds in the budget and fundraising appears to be the only option.

#### Future Agenda Items

- A. "Free Library" sign - White Memorial Building
- B. White Building Lanterns
- C. Stone Pillars in Starin Park
- D. Whitewater Historical Survey Recommendations

#### Adjournment

Kimberly Krebs moved for adjournment. Second by Linda Loomer. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:02 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Christ  
Secretary