

WHITEWATER LANDMARKS COMMISSION
December 2, 2009

Chair, Mariann Scott called to order the monthly meeting of the Whitewater Landmarks Commission at 5:05 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: Mariann Scott, Kathleen Haas Lashley, Patrick Singer, Kimberly Krebs, Linda Loomer, and Carol Christ. Rick Daniels was absent.

Approval of Agenda

Linda Loomer moved that the agenda be approved. Kimberly Krebs seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Approval of Minute

Kimberly Krebs moved to approve the November 4, 2009 and August 29, 2009 minutes, which were amended to include Debra Krebs as also present for the tour. Kathleen Haas Lashley seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Next Landmark's Commission Meeting

The next meeting date is set for January 6, 2010 at 5 P.M in the City Manager's Conference Room at the Whitewater Municipal Building

OLD BUSINESS

Whitewater Depot Renovation

Kathleen Haas Lashley reported that the DOT has issued a contract. It is currently being reviewed by Isthmus Architecture, Inc. of Madison and the Whitewater Historical Society.

James and Ella Rockefeller House

The James and Ella Rockefeller House at 837 South Janesville Road, owned by Russell Walton, is still in limbo. It could either be moved or demolished due to a Highway 59 intersection change. At this time there has been no further information from the DOT regarding this project. Mariann will contact Mr. Walton to see if there is interest in designating the house and outbuildings as a local landmark.

Congregational Church Clock Tower

Mariann has not heard anything since she contacted Bob Freiermuth of the Congregational Church and gave him an application to request landmark status for the 125-year-old church. The clock tower is not eligible for Landmark status but the whole building is. Mariann will do a follow-up contact.

Whitewater Effigy Mounds

The Indians Mounds Park Committee (a joint committee of the Park and Recreation Board and the Landmarks Commission) met on November 11. Committee members present were Mariann Scott - Tree Commission, Carol Christ - Landmarks Commission, Sheila Kindwall - Whitewater School District, and Sue Scherer, representing property owners whose property abut the park. Matt Amundson, city staff, chaired the meeting. Mariann passed out a copy of the minutes of the first meeting, which dealt with a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis of the current mounds site. The group also discussed a possible name change. This would be discussed further at the next meeting.

The Indian Mounds Park Committee met on December 1. Members present were Mariann Scott, Sue Scherer, and Carol Christ. Matt Amundson chaired the meeting. Linda Loomer, interested citizen, was also present. The committee is recommending a name change from Whitewater Effigy Mounds to Whitewater Mounds Archaeological Preserve. Matt is working with Jay Toth of the Ho-Chunk Nation on signage (double sided and perpendicular to the road). Mariann brought copies of the survey that is being done. It did show a homeowner's fence encroaching on the mounds property. The Landmarks Commission wondered if the property could be disturbed for a sign or plantings. This is a question for John Broihahn, state archaeologist.

Friends of the Mounds

Nancy Dade is planning on a meeting in January.

Educational Programs at the Mounds

The goal is to eventually have programs for children and adults as well as leaflets describing the history of the mounds.

Landmarks Commission Bylaws and Guidelines

Patrick Singer reported that City Attorney Wallace McDonnell is working on the bylaws and guidelines. There should be a draft by the first of the year.

Consideration of Implementing the New Provisions of Chapter 17

Mariann Scott and Linda Loomer set a meeting date of December 30th at 1:30 to meet with city clerk, Michelle Smith, on a plan for implementation.

NEW BUSINESS

Certified Local Governments

On April 15, 1987, the city of Whitewater was recognized by the U.S. Department of the Interior as a Certified Local Government for historic preservation purposes. Among other things this makes the city eligible to apply for federal funds. In order to comply with our status as a CLG, a yearly report is due by April along with all of the minutes for the past year. These are to be sent to the State Historic Preservation Commission.

Future Agenda Items

- A. "Free Library" sign - White Memorial Building
- B. White Building Lanterns
- C. Whitewater Historical Survey Recommendations

Adjournment

Kathleen Haas Lashley moved for adjournment. Seconded by Linda Loomer. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Christ
Secretary