

## WHITEWATER LANDMARKS COMMISSION

Wednesday, August 4, 2010

NOTE: Minutes begin with item V.

- I. Call to Order & roll call
- II. Approval of Agenda and rearrangement.
  - a. The agenda was rearranged to have the election of the officers, item V, to be placed before the approval of the minutes.
- V. Election of officers
  - a. Election of Chair
    - i. Mariann Scott was nominated by Kathleen Lashley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Linda Loomer
    - ii. Mariann accepted the nomination and was approved as Chair by a voice vote.
  - b. Election of Vice Chair
    - i. Carol Christ was nominated by Linda Loomer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kathleen Lashley.
    - ii. Carol was not present, but Mariann indicated that she would accept the nomination, and she was approved as Vice Chair by a voice vote.
  - c. Election of Secretary
    - i. Brandon VerVelde was nominated by Linda Loomer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kim Krebs.
    - ii. Brandon accepted the nomination and was approved as Secretary by a voice vote.
- III. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Linda moved to approve the July 7, 2010 minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kathleen.
  - b. The minutes were approved with a voice vote.
- IV. Next Landmark's Commission Meeting
  - a. The next Landmarks meeting was set as September 1, 2010 at 5 PM in the City Manager's Conference Room at the Whitewater Municipal Building, moved by Kim and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Linda.
  - b. The meeting time and date was approved with a voice vote.

### OLD BUSINESS

- VI. Report from Friends of the Mounds
  - a. Richard Helmick was present at the meeting to share information from the Friends of the Mounds. The Friends shared their concerns with the Task Force, he said. Richard also shared pictures from the recent tour of various mounds in Wisconsin, during which they saw many different ways to care for mounds. He also stated he was pleased by the new name of the park.
- VII. Report from Effigy Mounds Task Force meeting, Monday, August 2, 2010.
  - a. The report stated that there were many problems with the care of the mounds, as well as the mounds being taken care of incorrectly. By Spring 2011, they hope to have all issues taken care of. They will be bringing in a 3<sup>rd</sup> party source to help plan the fencing,

maintenance, and overall care, then the Task Force would approve or not approve of the plan. There are grants available to help defray the cost. The Friends of the Mounds also wants to have a controlled burn of some of the grasses. The report also discussed the various fencing issues with citizens' properties bordering the Mounds, including the proper way to remove the fence, the proper procedure of notifying the citizens, and why the problem came about in the first place. The report also said the Landmarks Commission should stay alert on the issue. It was also suggested that the neighbors whose properties border the mounds should work together to come up with a fencing solution that would work for the Mounds and their properties. It was also discussed that the problem may have started with the original developer of the subdivision, not the current property owners.

VIII. Progress on storage of original Birge Fountain Figures (Loomer)

- a. Linda reported that she spoke with Ed McCulloch, a carpenter, about the issue of coming up with a protective glass of plexiglass covering for the figures to be stored in the open, but to also protect them from vandals. Ed suggested that plexiglass might scratch easily when cleaned, so he recommended tempered glass, which is much harder to break. They also discussed LED lights in various colors to light the figures. They are getting a quote from Whitewater Glass. Linda also mentioned the idea of coming up with a plaque for the figures explaining the origin and importance, but she needed to talk to Bruce Parker regarding that.

IX. Rockefeller House (837 S. Janesville St.) Movement

- a. No update, no contact from owner. Mariann would contact again.

X. Certified Local Government Information & Report

- a. Mariann reported that Michelle emailed it out, and made copies, and will fax to the appropriate departments. The new binder will contain all the agendas, minutes, proclamations from last year and this year.

XI. Possible Future Local Landmark Designations

- a. Pescheret House
  - i. All the papers were completed in 1986, and have been found. The house is now owned by Mercy Health Care. Kim will be contacting Mercy regarding the possibility of it becoming a landmark.
- b. Henderson House
  - i. It is a Century House according the plaque designation in 1976 by the Whitewater Historical Society. They also found a book/binder with all sorts of information on the house, who owned it, news articles about it, etc. It was also discussed that the house might be a good fit to put a Restrictive Covenant on it before selling it, as the covenant would guarantee for 30 years the house is not torn down or irreversibly altered.
- c. Historic Districts
  - i. Starin Park District. The Starin Park Neighborhood association is interested in this designation, but only for some houses and not others. It was suggested that the Commission send the association a letter outlining what exactly the Historic District designation means.

- XII. Discussion of proposed Landmarks Commission Bylaws
  - a. Postponed to September

**NEW BUSINESS**

- XIII. Certificate of Appropriateness Process for Train Depot and Skindingsrude Building
  - a. The Whitewater ordinance covers the Certificate of Appropriateness for the Landmarks Commission
    - i. Landmarks approval and changes were discussed in regards to appropriateness.
- XIV. Announcements
  - a. Asking for money from the city to attend the Local History and Historic Preservation Conference in Lake Geneva on October 15-16
    - i. No response from the city as of yet. Cost is \$90 before early deadline.
  - b. Possible Grants
    - i. Information is available.
  - c. Plaques for historic sites in Whitewater
    - i. List was made available with the prices. Copies were handed out to the commission members.
- XV. Budget Requests
  - a. \$500 was discussed as the amount to request from the city for the budget.
- XVI. Future Agenda Items
  - a. Train Depot – back on the agenda
  - b. Skindingsrude – back on the agenda
  - c. Tour of older houses – back on the agenda
  - d. Whiton & Conger – back on the agenda
  - e. Leaflets and other materials – back on the agenda
  - f. Bylaws will also be discussed next time
- XVII. Adjournment
  - a. Kathy Lashley moved to adjourn at 6:25 p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Linda Loomer. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandon VerVelde

Secretary – Whitewater Landmarks Commission