

## WHITEWATER LANDMARKS COMMISSION

January 5, 2011

Chair, Mariann Scott called to order the monthly meeting of the Whitewater Landmarks Commission at 5:12 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, Linda Loomer, Richard Helmick, David Sachs and Carol Christ. Brandon Vervelde and Marilyn Kienbaum were absent. Roy Nosek was a guest.

### Approval of Agenda

Richard moved to place item 13 (Possible future informational programs on the positive influence of historic districts and local landmarks designated properties) to the top of the agenda. Carol seconded. Motion approved. Richard moved to accept the agenda as rearranged. Linda seconded. Motion approved.

### Approval of Minutes

Linda moved to accept the December 8, 2010 minutes as printed. Carol seconded. Motion approved.

### Next Landmark's Commission Meeting

The next meeting is set for Wednesday, February 2, at 5:30 P.M in the City Manager's Conference Room at the Whitewater Municipal Building.

### Citizen's Comments

Roy Nosek expressed his concern for the old pillars at Starin Park. He hoped that they could possibly be moved to the current entrance.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### Informational Meetings re Historic Districts and Local Landmarks

A public informational meeting is being planned to inform residents and businesses of the benefits of being a historic district/local landmark. Someone from the Wisconsin Historical Society will be the main presenter. It will be videotaped and broadcast at a later date. Roy Nosek shared how the Starin Park Historic Neighborhood Assn. came into being. He feels that the association would be interested in a such a meeting. Their next meeting is on Thursday, January 27. NOTE: Roy checked with the association and they would be willing to attend such a meeting on Thursday, February 10. Mariann will contact the Wisconsin Historical Society to arrange a for a speaker.

### Friends of the Mounds

Richard contacted city hall to see if there is any progress on the removal of the fence that is placed on one of the mounds. The city attorney has drafted a letter to be sent to the home owner. As of this point, the letter has not been sent. A *Friends of the Mounds* meeting will be scheduled next week.

### Whitewater Effigy Mounds Task Force

Matt Amundsen has disbanded the task force. It was set up to form a restoration plan. Now that Jennings and Associates have been hired to draft a restoration plan, the task force is no longer needed.

### Restoration Proposal Open Meeting – December 8

The meeting was well attended by the community. Six Friends, four Landmarks and all of the Task Force were present. No Park Board Members attended. Jennings & Associates presented a plan and encouraged citizen input.

### Birge Fountain Figures

Chuck Nass has moved the Maid of the Mist to the city garage. The case hasn't been started. There is concern about the need to shovel the sidewalk around the fountain.

### James and Ella Rockefeller House

Carol contacted the State Historical Preservation Office at the Wisconsin Historical Society. Dan Duchow reported that there was a new MOA signed on November 15<sup>th</sup> which included covenants. Carol passed out the new MOA and explained it. The current owner has 30 days to respond with his intent to move the house. He would receive \$50,000 to help pay for the move from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and must abide by all of the covenants. Carol also talked to Bob Newberry at WisDOT who stated that if the present owner does not intend to move the house, it will be offered to any other interested parties for relocation. Anyone who wants the property could purchase it for a nominal fee.

Carol also passed out and explained Wisconsin Statutes 40.40 dealing with state agency action regarding locally designated properties, and U. S. Code of Federal Regulations 106 dealing with eligibility for the National Register. The Rockefeller House is not a local landmark but it is eligible for the National Register, so the Federal Law trumps both state and local laws.

### UWW Stone Pillars

Carol talked to Bob Newberry from WisDOT who stated that this was at first a safety improvement project begun two years ago by the University. It is now a Federal Highway program. There has been a determination that the wall, the two arboretums and East Hyer Hall are eligible for the National Register. As of December 21, SHPO has verbally approved a WisDOT plan to change the traffic lights and keep the walls in place. Engineers as well as the University need to approve.

### Historical and Archaeological Preservation Month

Pastor Wendt is enthusiastic about the upcoming church open house planned for a Sunday in May. He is going to talk to the ministerial association to solicit interest. Other ideas for the weekend include thanking the local landmarks and presenting each owner with a certificate.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Christmas Trees in Flat Iron Park

There was concern about the moving of the trees from the lakefront to Flat Iron Park. Some citizens felt that a historical venue was not an appropriate place to showcase businesses.

### Future Agenda Items

- A. Whitewater Historical Survey Recommendations
- B. New Provision of Chapter 17 – criteria & list
- C. Leaflets and Educational Material
- D. Possible Grants – Jeffris Family & CLG
- E. Plaques for Whitewater sites that are on National Register
- F. Possible Future Local Landmarks Designations
  1. Leon Pescheret House (Scott)
  2. Vivian Henderson House (Scott)
  3. Yasko House
  4. Ambrose House
  5. Starin Park Historic Neighborhood (Helmick)
- G. "Free Library" signs

Linda moved for adjournment. Seconded by Richard. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:28.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Christ  
Acting Secretary