

# WHITEWATER LANDMARKS COMMISSION

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**July 6, 2011**

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

- A. Chair, 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.
- B. Roll call was taken with the following members present: Carol Christ, Richard Helmick, Linda Loomer, and Mariann Scott. Note: Marilyn Kienbaum arrived at 5:11. Guests present – Nancy Wendt and Roy Nosek.

II. Approval of Agenda

- A. Christ moved and Helmick seconded to accept the July 6, agenda as printed.
- B. AYES: Christ, Helmick, Loomer, Scott. NOES: None ABSENT: None

III. Approval of Minutes

- A. Helmick moved and Loomer seconded to accept the May 4, 2011 minutes with the following correction: Reports: VII Scott reported that David Sachs resigned. This leaves two vacancies on the commission.
- B. AYES: Christ, Helmick, Loomer, Scott. NOES: None ABSENT: None

IV. Next Landmark's Commission Meeting

The next meeting is to be scheduled for Wed. August 3, at 5:00 P.M in the City Manager's Conference Room at the Whitewater Municipal Building.

V. Election of Chair, Vice-chair and Secretary

- A. Helmick moved and Christ seconded to postpone until unfilled position(s) on commission are filled.
- B. AYES: Christ, Helmick, Kienbaum, Loomer, Scott. NOES: None ABSENT: None

VI. Citizen's Comments

- A. Roy Nosek was pleased to see that the FREE LIBRARY letters had been returned to the White Memorial Building. He was concerned as to the whereabouts of the lanterns which were once on the building and gave some suggestions as to how to go about finding them.
- B. Nosek noted that the older Christmas decorations were in need of stars and that city was in process of purchasing stars. He hoped that new stars would be similar to historic ones that had disintegrated.
- C. Nosek is organizing a group to repaint the Birge fountain from July 18<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> and asked for volunteers.

## REPORTS

VII. Report on Whitewater attendance commission, boards and committee policy.

There are two unfilled positions on the Landmarks Commission. Alan Marshal I and Nancy Wendt have expressed interest.

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## VIII. Report on membership in the Wisconsin Alliance of Preservation Commissions

Scott distributed newsletter from the Wisconsin Alliance of Preservation Commissions and noted that members soon would have the option of receiving it online.

## IX. Report on James and Ella Rockefeller House

- A. Christ reported that a press release on April 18, 2011 by the WisDOT offered the Rockefeller House for relocation and that 4 packets had been requested by interested parties.
- B. No parties returned signed statements of interest.
- C. The next step is for the WisDOT to conduct an archeological survey of the property before demolition.
- D. Digital photos had been taken by the Wisconsin Historical Society and were sent to Whitewater Historical Society and City of Whitewater.

## X. Report on Yasko House, 135 Whiton Street – Application for possible Local Landmark Nomination

- A. Helmick was concerned about the delay in approval process for the Yasko House. He noted that the Yasko House nomination papers had been submitted on April 13, 2011.
- B. Scott reported that Carol Cartwright has reviewed application and a bibliography is needed to substantiate information. She needs to contact Cartwright to get details.
- C. Scott noted that Landmarks Commission needs a training session on how to approve a local landmark and will be addressed in item XVI.

## XI. Report on Hoard Museum Panel and Brochure

- A. Christ, Helmick, Loomer and Renae Prell Mitchell met with Director, Kori Oberle on June 28.
- B. Panel will include location map, trail map, sign and pictures along with pertinent information.
- C. Image Branding First Inc., Fort Atkinson is donating the panels in exchange for a corporate membership.
- D. Panel should be simple emphasizing uniqueness of site.

## XII. Report on Friends of the Effigy Mounds

- A. City Manager hasn't reported back to City Council on boundary markings/encroachments.
- B. Kienbaum read letter from Jim and Sherry Rodgers re boundaries.
- C. Summer work projects are on hold – waiting for letter of agreement from city of Whitewater.
- D. Two tours were given by Friends
  1. Fourth grade Lakeview School – Christ, Helmick, Scott
  2. Kenosha County Archeological Society – Christ, Scott
- E. Investigation of possible intaglio
  1. Rob Nurre will do a grid analysis.
  2. Pro bono investigation is being pursued.
- F. A burn in fall to complete spring burn is being recommended by FOTEM.
- G. Publicity
  1. Webpage and newsletter needs to be developed
  2. Article in Whitewater Register re May 28<sup>th</sup> presentation at Mounds.
  3. Christ wrote article on Mounds for Hocak Worak – Ho-Chunk Newsletter.
- H. Scott suggested a Three Sisters' garden.

## XIII. Report on White Memorial Building “FREE LIBRARY” Letters Rededication – Friday, June 17.

- A. Thirty people were in attendance;
- B. Loomer sent invites to 27 people – 9 out of 14 former library employees attended.
- C. Loomer wrote thank you to Daily Jefferson County Union

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- D. Daily Jefferson County Union covered the event with photos.
- E. Whitewater Community Television videotaped the event.

## OLD BUSINESS

### XIV. Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve Maintenance and Restoration Plan

- A. Helmick moved and Loomer seconded to approve the following portions of the Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve Maintenance and Restoration Plan:

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Section II – Restoration & Management Recommendations (including Effigy Mounds).

- 1) Begin a burning regime (potential spring 2011 burn planned) to encourage native vegetation establishment and help control weeds
- 4) Begin invasive species control regimen at appropriate time of the year
- 5) Sow (by hand) native seed collected on-site at appropriate times of the year
- 6) Add additional oak savanna westward into the DOT prairie

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Master Plan

REMOVE FENCES ON PUBLIC LAND. Work with neighbors to remove fences that are [sic] have been built on the mounds preserve.

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PROTECTION ZONE

The effigy mounds are of world-wide importance and a key part of Whitewater's cultural, historic,[sic] It is strongly recommended that a 250 foot scenic easement or park buffer be created adjacent to the preserve.

BOUNDARY MARKERS

Install boundary markers (made with natural materials) along property lines but only in locations that will not disturb mounds

ADDITIONAL MAPPING AND TREE INVENTORY

The existing mapping of tree locations and mound shapes needs to be updated to better inventory the existing resources. A detailed survey using an archeologist and a surveyor should be conducted. We should also conduct a tree inventory of existing Oaks and their condition.

- B. AYES: Christ, Helmick, Kienbaum, Loomer, Scott. NOES: None ABSENT: None

### XV. Discussion of possible Classroom Educational Material for Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve

No report.

## NEW BUSINESS

### XVI. Work Session to prepare for Landmark Nomination Process

Work session set for Monday, July 25 – 9 AM – 11 AM.

### XVII. Local History and Historic Preservation Conference – September 23-24, 2011, Stevens Point

Members were encouraged to attend and should send in reservations by August 8.

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XVIII. Review Title 17, Chapter 17.04.010 intent and plan for next year's events.

Will be addressed at work session.

XIX. Future Agenda Items

- A. Review possible future local landmark designations
  - 1. Leon Pescheret house
  - 2. Vivian Henderson house
  - 3. Starin Park Historic Neighborhood
  - 4. UW Stone Pillars and Starin Park Pillars
- B. New provision of Chapter 17 – criteria and list
- C. Possible amendments to Chapter 17 Ordinance (COA, Annual report to council)
- D. Possible Grants – Jeffris Family and CLG
- E. Plaques for Whitewater sites that are on National Register

XX. Adjournment

- A. Helmick moved and Loomer seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 P.M.
- B. AYES: Christ, Helmick, Kienbaum, Loomer, Scott. NOES: None ABSENT: None

Respectfully submitted,

Carol D. Christ  
Secretary Pro Tem