

WHITEWATER LANDMARKS COMMISSION
March 2, 2011

Chair, Scott called to order the monthly meeting of the Whitewater Landmarks Commission at 5:33 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: Carol Christ, Richard Helmick, Council Member, Marilyn Kienbaum, and Linda Loomer. David Sachs and Brandon VerVelde were absent. Guests present were Jon Kachel and Jim Schumacher. City Attorney, Wallace McDonell was present.

Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Loomer and seconded by Kienbaum to place item # 8 to position #3 and approve the agenda as rearranged. AYES: Christ, Helmick, Kienbaum, Scott. NOES: None ABSENT: Sachs, VerVelde.

Boundary Encroachments in Effigy Mounds Preserve

Schumacher, a resident of Mound Park Subdivision, asked why after all these years, is Kachel's fence an issue. Scott reviewed the Wisconsin law that states there must be 5 feet that is undisturbed around a mound, and reviewed the Restrictive Covenants for the Mound Park Subdivision: page 9 c. which state that "no ornamental plantings or fence shall be permitted within the 10' buffer or utility easement abutting Mounds Park" and page 10 g. "Enforcement of Declarations" which states that Developer, ACC, lot owner, or Homeowners Assn has the right to enforce the covenants. Scott explained that in the past, previous Landmarks Commissioners had not been trained and were unaware that they were bound by city ordinance to protect the mounds as an archeological site, burial ground, and local landmark.

Kachel asked if the boundaries have been surveyed. Kachel also mentioned that he had some safety concerns about the way the land drops off and that he had a wood pile near the rear of his lot and needed to know where his property ends. McDonell explained that there was a survey last year but the exact location of property pins needs to be identified with flags for the owners who have a right to know their property boundary lines as well as for the Jennings and Associates restoration proposal. Under discussion in the proposal is a way to delineate these boundaries so that visitors to the effigy mounds will know the where the site ends. The Commission agreed that this must be acceptable to the property owners.

It was moved by Loomer and seconded by Christ that boundary property pins be located and marked with flags for the entire preserve. AYES: Christ, Helmick, Kienbaum, Scott. NOES: None ABSENT: Sachs, VerVelde. By general consent it was agreed that the pins be located as soon as weather permits.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Loomer and seconded by Helmick to accept the February 2, 2010 minutes as printed. AYES: Christ, Helmick, Kienbaum, Scott. NOES: None ABSENT: Sachs, VerVelde.

Next Landmark's Commission Meeting

The next meeting is to be scheduled for Wed. April 6, at 5:00 P.M in the City Manager's Conference Room at the Whitewater Municipal Building.

Citizen's Comments

Jon Kachel and Jim Schumacher, Indian Mound Subdivision residents were present to address boundary issues (see above).

OLD BUSINESS

Friends of the Mounds

Helmick reported that the Friends contacted Jay Toth, archeologist for Ho Chunk Nation regarding the fence issue and he suggested contacting state archeologist, John Broihahn.

Joint Park and Rec Board and Landmarks Commission plus Public Hearing

The Park and Recreation Board along with the Landmarks Commission will have a joint meeting to take public comments and review the Jennings & Associates restoration proposal for Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve on Wed. March 30 – time to be determined.

Birge Fountain Figures

Loomer reported that Chuck Nass and city workers have completed the case for the Maid of the Mist. Loomer sent them a thank you note and has information needed to order a plaque for the case. Helmick suggested that a display on the fountain be placed at the Irvin Young Library during Historical and Archeological Preservation Month (May). Loomer will contact the library.

James and Ella Rockefeller House

Christ reported that the WisDOT is in the process of purchasing the house from Mr. Walton. It will be offered up for sale after May 12.

UWW Stone Pillars

Christ reported that there is no further information at this time.

Informational Meetings re Historic Districts and Local Landmarks

Scott reported that a public informational meeting was held on January 10, at city hall to inform residents and businesses of the benefits of being a historic district/local landmark. Daina Penkiunas from the Wisconsin Historical Society was the main presenter. It was also videotaped and a link will be placed on the city website.

Historical and Archaeological Preservation Month

Pastor Wendt has gotten approval from the ministerial association for the upcoming church open house planned for Sunday, May 15th. More information is needed as to what the pastors are planning. The Whitewater Historical Society will have the Depot and Stone Stable open. The *Friends* will coordinate an Effigy Mounds event. Jim Winship and Allen Luckett received a grant to produce a story-telling video and they would like to do one about the local landmarks. It was decided not to do fundraising this year.

NEW BUSINESS

Whitewater Passenger Depot Restoration Project

Scott received a letter from WisDOT regarding our input for the future restoration project. Scott will contact them and let them know that we will be reviewing the project and want to stay informed and included in the process.

Wisconsin Alliance of Historic Preservation Commissions

Scott will request that the Landmarks Commission become a member of the WAHPC and ask the city to pay the membership fee.

Landmarks Nomination Form

Scott distributed an updated Landmarks Nomination Form.. Possible future landmarks are listed below.

Future Agenda Items

- A. Ordinance Amendment for Certificate of Appropriateness
- B. Commission Position on Boundary Issues
- C. New Provision of Chapter 17 – criteria & list
- D. Leaflets and Educational Material
- E. Possible Grants – Jeffris Family & CLG
- F. Plaques for Whitewater sites that are on National Register
- G. Possible Future Local Landmarks Designations
 - 1. Leon Pescheret House (Scott)
 - 2. Vivian Henderson House (Scott)
 - 3. Yasko House
 - 4. Ambrose House
 - 5. Congregational Church
 - 6. St. Luke’s Episcopal Church
 - 7. Starin Park Historic Neighborhood (Helmick)
- H. “Free Library” signs

Loomer moved and Helmick seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 P.M. AYES: Christ, Helmick, Kienbaum, Scott. NOES: None ABSENT: Sachs, VerVerlde.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Christ
Acting Secretary