

## Minutes

Whitewater Landmarks Commission  
Thursday February 7, 2013 - 6 PM  
City Manager's Conference Room  
312 Whitewater Street, Whitewater, WI 53190

### CALL TO ORDER

- I. Call to Order and roll call - Welcome new city council representative  
The meeting was called to order at by Christ at 6:03 PM.  
Present: Carol Christ, Linda Loomer, Nancy Wendt, Richard Helmick, Andrew Crone  
Absent: Allan Marshall  
Staff present: Latisha Birkland
- II. Approval of agenda and possible rearrangement  
MSC Loomer/Wendt to approve the agenda as printed.  
Ayes: Christ, Loomer, Wendt, Helmick, Crone  
No: None  
Abstain: None  
(Suzanne Haeslow arrived at 6:08 PM)
- III. Approval of minutes of December 6, 2012.  
MSC Haeslow/Christ to approve the minutes of Dec. 06, 2012.  
Ayes: Christ, Loomer, Wendt, Helmick, Crone, Haeslow  
No: None  
Abstain: None
- IV. Set date and time of next meeting  
The next meeting will be held Thursday, March 7, 2013 at 6:00 P.M. in the city manager's conference room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, city hall.
- V. Hear Citizen Comments: No formal Landmarks Commission Action will be taken during this meeting although issues raised may become a part of a future agenda. Participants are allotted a three minute speaking period. Specific items listed on the agenda may not be discussed at this time; however citizens are invited to speak to those specific issues at the time the Commission discusses that particular item.  
There were no citizen's comments.

### REPORTS

- VI. Report from the Friends of the Mounds - FOTEM (Helmick)  
Marianne Scott is planning to hold a meeting at the Irvin Young Library. Time and date to be announced.  
FOTEM Newsletter: Christ would like to resign as the editor of the newsletter. If anyone is interested they should contact her (262-745-9676).
- VII. Update on restoration of Whitewater Passenger Depot (Marshall)  
Birkland reported that prior approval for the modifications have been approved by the state. Only two, minor projects remain to be completed. Official approval is expected by March. Grand opening is planned for April 28 in conjunction with the Whitewater Arts Alliance's Art Walk.
- VIII. Update on Walking Tour Brochure (Wendt)  
There is some confusion concerning the differences between the Walking Tour and the Tour of Landmarks. Christ will call Alan Luckett for more information and clarification.
- IX. Update on Birge Fountain (Loomer)  
Roy Nosek is planning a meeting for this March.

- X. Update on Local Landmarks/Main Street Historic District Brochures (Loomer, Marshall & Christ)  
Work is progressing. Christ passed out the proposed descriptions for 11 of the landmarks. Discussion ensued. The next step will be to decide on a design layout that will accommodate all 19 properties with photographs and short descriptions of the properties.
- XI. Update on Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve Preservation and Maintenance Plan (Helmick)  
Matt Amundson has reported that the 2013, Park & Recreation has budgeted \$3,600 for improvements at the Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve. This is currently intended for native grasses, perennial plantings, and the conversion of mounds to short stature prairie grass. A priority list of work projects for the preserve this summer:
1. Continue to battle invasive plant species. Staff may need to look at chemical treatment options to apply on the remaining mounds this Spring. Input on this is needed from FOTEM & Park Board.
  2. Conversion of mounds from turf grass to short-stature prairie grass
  3. Realign the trail entrance
  4. Improve the green space off of Indian Mounds Parkway – input needed from FOTEM & Park Board (options included an entrance garden, trees, and prairie grasses in an effort to tie the entrance to the rest of the site).

It should be noted that the Park & Recreation Board is charged with the overall maintenance of the preserve.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- XII. Status of FREE LIBRARY history panel for White Memorial Library (Loomer)  
If the commission is interested in continuing this project, it needs to appoint another representative. Christ will talk with Marianne Scott for more information.
- XIII. Implementing 17.08.040 of Title 17 re: city-owned, historically significant, personal property.  
Members questioned the use of “personal” in the statute. An inventory needs to be created. Christ will continue to work on this.
- XIV. Corrections to Architectural and Historical Survey of Whitewater, WI 53190 (Marshall)  
No report.
- XV. Local Landmarks Framed Certificates  
There are 7 certificates that still need to be delivered to the owners of landmarks. Members agreed to deliver them to the owners.
- XVI. National Park Service Annual Products Report for CLG's  
Christ has tried to contact the park service for more information. It has not responded. She will continue to fill out the report.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- XVII. Use of Chrome books for Landmarks meetings  
The Chrome books are to be used in the downstairs, community room. The landmarks Commission may use them. They are not suitable to take minutes but can be used to access the internet and city records. Commissioners decided to continue meeting upstairs in the city manager’s conference room.

- XVIII. Wisconsin Historic Preservation and Archeology Month – May  
Christ asked members to bring ideas to the next meeting.
- XIX. Drumlin Hall - possible historic preservation  
The university is currently renovating the dining hall. According to a report in the Janesville Gazette, the hall is headed for “historic preservation status.” Haeslow will contact the director of dining services to get more information.
- XX. Landmarks Commission Annual Preservation Activities Report for state of Wisconsin  
Christ distributed the annual report from 2011 and requested assistance from Birkland to complete the report for this past year.

#### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- XXI. Future designations of city-owned properties as local landmarks  
Possible nominations: Peschere House, the old water tower in Starin Park.
- XXII. Plaques for Whitewater sites on the National Register of Historic Places

#### **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

- XXIII. Call to Adjourn  
MSC Loomer/Helmick to adjourn the meeting.  
Ayes: Christ, Loomer, Wendt, Helmick, Crone, Haeslow  
No: None  
Abstain: None  
The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted  
Richard Helmick, Secretary Landmarks Commission