



Minutes

**Whitewater Landmarks Commission
Thursday, February 5, 2015 – 6:30 PM**

**City Manager's Conference Room
312 Whitewater Street, Whitewater, WI 53190**

Call to Order

- Call to Order and roll call
Chairman Kienbaum called the meeting to order at 6:43 PM
Present: Ken Kienbaum, Alan Marshall, Suzanne Haselow, Suzanne Popke, Pat Blackmer, Richard Helmick
Absent: Sarah Bregant
Staff present: Alan Luckett
Guests: Taylor McDarinson, Kori Oberle; Bill Bowen; Terry Frame
- Approval of Agenda
MSC Haselow/Blackmere to move Landmark Signage to the beginning of the Reports section.
Ayes: Kienbaum, Marshall, Haselow, Popke, Blackmer, Helmick
Nays: None
Abstain: None
MSC Haselow/Blackmere to approve the agenda as amended.
Ayes: Kienbaum, Marshall, Haselow, Popke, Blackmer, Helmick
Nays: None
Abstain: None
- Approval of Minutes – December 4, 2014
MSC Blackmere/Haselow to approve the minutes with minor spelling corrections.
Ayes: Kienbaum, Marshall, Haselow, Popke, Blackmer, Helmick
Nays: None
Abstain: None
- Set date and time of next meeting – Thursday, March 5, 2015 – 6:30 PM.
The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday, March 5, 2015, at 6:30 PM in the city manager's conference room. (Please note the time change.)
- 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.

Mr. Bill Bowen, representing Slipstream LLC, a digital information service, spoke to the commission on a digital information system that can be used with cell phones or other, digital devices. The system could be used at the Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve to help with such things as self-guided tours and other information. This system was presented at the December, Park and Recreation Board meeting. Bowen presented it tonight for the commissioners' information.

(Sarah Bregant arrived.)

Reports

- Landmark Signage (Bregant)

Taylor McDarinson distributed copies of the Tile Project Proposal and Artist Payment Plan to the commissioners. Terry Frame, her professor at UW-W, accompanied her. McDarinson also displayed five design sketches she created to reflect the type of architecture represented by the city's landmarks. Additionally, she had samples of different clays she could use and described the firing techniques and their absorbency and saturation rates. Discussion ensued. McDarinson asked for clarification of the information to be placed on the plaque. Additionally, it was agreed that Frame would order the necessary supplies through her department and then send the invoices to Lockett for city payment. The cost of supplies would not exceed the amount listed in the distributed Payment Plan.

(Denay Trykowski, guest, arrived.)

- Friends of the Mounds – Information of signage on Mounds (Helmick)
Denay Trykowski has provided links for Landmarks consideration of possible grant sources that could be used for historical or architectural projects at the Effigy Mounds Preserve. More research still needs to be done to determine applicability of grants to goals the commission may have. Denay has volunteered to work with Haselow to bring back possible grants for the commission to consider. Popke suggested that a grant might help with historical plantings to recommend for use at identified landmark buildings.
- Historical Society (Marshall)
The program on Whitewater Pottery presented by Kori Oberle was well attended. The next program is the Whitewater Collects to be held Saturday, March 7, from 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM. It will be held at the Cravath Lake Pavilion. More publicity will be forthcoming. There will be a collection of Whitewater calendars dating from 1810 – 1850 for public display.
- Birge Fountain (Kienbaum)



No report.

- Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve and Maintenance (Helmick)
At the next P&R Board meeting, February 10, a discussion will be held and possible action taken related to the maintenance of the Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve. According to notes from Matt Amundson, “Chuck Nass has requested to address some concerns raised recently at the Park and Recreation Board and UFC meetings. In addition, I’ve contacted Tall Grass and Dare Ecosystem Management in regards to reviewing the site and designing a proposal for contracted maintenance work as the Board has requested. I anticipate having these proposals for your review at the March meeting.”

Unfinished Business

- Signs for the Mounds
Park and Recreation has budgeted \$15,000 for signage at the Effigy Mounds Preserve. It was suggested that a subcommittee be established to propose signage – what type of sign, where they should be placed as well as what is drafted upon them. Blackmere, Helmick, and Oberle volunteered to develop signage proposals and present them to the commission for consideration. Trykowski also suggested that signage be used to identify and describe the plantings at the entrance sign.
- What Parks & Recreation Board did on animal and brush at the Mounds
The Landmarks Commission is still waiting for the Park and Recreation Board to resolve three animal intrusions in the ground adjacent to the viewing trail. At a previous Park and Recreation meeting, a trail map indicating where disturbances were located was distributed to board members. Kienbaum talked to a trapper who reports that the animal most likely is a woodchuck or a groundhog.
- Formal Consideration on the Old Armory Landmarks Status – To be reviewed at the City Council at their February 3, 2015 meeting.
After discussion, the Common Council encouraged the Landmarks Commission to continue the process of nominating the City Armory as a local landmark. Helmick has requested the city clerk to prepare notifications of a hearing to be sent to neighboring property owners. The clerk will wait for commission authorization as well as a hearing date, time, and location to be added to the notification. Commissioners agreed that the hearing should be held at the Armory at our next, monthly meeting. Luckett will communicate information with the city clerk so that the notifications can be sent to neighboring property owners and others as required.



- Web based Landmark Application Forms
Luckett still needs to work on the form so it can be more easily used.

New Business

- Letter to City member.
A thank you recognition by the commission should be sent to another person who helps the commission with its work. Helmick will create the letter and give it to Kienbaum for delivery.
MSC Bregant/Marshall to compose and send a letter.
Ayes: Kienbaum, Marshall, Haselow, Popke, Blackmer, Helmick, Bregant
Nays: None
Abstain: None
- Whitewater Effigy Mounds Face book page
Helmick introduced Kori Oberle to the commissioners. Oberle was a past member of the Landmarks Commission and has an interest in and wide experience with effigy mounds. She is asking the commission's advice and permission to revise the Effigy Mounds Facebook page. She has tried to communicate with the administrator of the page but has had no response. She is suggesting that with more activity a Facebook community could be built to help promote the preserve. Luckett is the public information officer for the city. He reviewed the city's policy relating to Facebook pages for the commissioners. He will try getting the site's administrator's name to Oberle. He will also discuss this with the city manager. Bregant suggested that someone from the W3 group may have information on the administrator. Blackmere suggested that a partnership with the Walworth Historical Society as a possible way to administer a site.
- Interactive Map on the city's web site
There are still problems accessing the map on the city's web site. Luckett will check it.

Future Agenda Items

- Discussion of the Slipstream project.
- Facebook listing for the Effigy Mounds Preserve.
- Draft list for potential signage the Effigy Mounds Preserve.

Good of the Order

Kienbaum reported that a book on the old stone mill that was sited on Main Street will be available this September.



Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Kienbaum 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted
Richard Helmick, Secretary