



Whitewater Landmarks Commission

Minutes

Thursday, May 5, 2016 – 6:00 PM

**Municipal Building, City Manager's Conference Room, 2nd Floor
312 Whitewater Street, Whitewater, WI 53190**

***Amended Agenda as of 9:00 a.m. May, 2, 2016 to add Election of Officers.**

Call to Order

- Call to Order and roll call
Chairperson Blackmer called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.
Present: Patricia Blackmer, Kori Oberle, Suzanne Haselow, Daniel Richardson, Patrick Singer, Richard Helmick, (Ken Kienbaum arrived at 6:20 PM.)
Staff present: Alan Luckett
Guests: Wally McDonell, Charlotte Haselow, Lincoln Singer
- *Election of Officers – Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary
MSC Helmick/Singer to approve the present slate of officers to be unanimously approved.
Ayes: Blackmer, Oberle, Haselow, Richardson, Singer, Helmick
Nays: None
Abstain: None
- Approval of Agenda
MSC Oberle/Haselow to approve the agenda as printed.
Ayes: Blackmer, Oberle, Haselow, Richardson, Singer, Helmick
Nays: None
Abstain: None
- Approval of Minutes – April 21, 2016
MSC Oberle/Richardson to approve the minutes as posted.
Ayes: Blackmer, Oberle, Haselow, Richardson, Singer, Helmick
Nays: None
Abstain: None
- Set date and time of next meeting – Thursday, June 2, 2016 - 6:00 PM

The next meeting was set for Thursday, June 2, 2016 at 6:00 PM in the city manager's conference room.

- 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 comments.

Reports

- Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve (Helmick/Oberle)

The first annual meeting of the Friends of the Effigy mounds Preserve was held last Monday, May 2. There were 22 people in attendance representing three communities and two states. Officers were elected. A program, Effigy Mounds: Ancient Works of Art, was presented.

- Birge Fountain Report (Luckett)

Luckett resubmitted his application for a citizen representative on the committee. The fountain is filled and running. Painting will not be considered until after the Fourth of July. Kienbaum raised questions regarding the maintenance of the basin. The concerns will be brought to the next meeting of the Birge Fountain Committee. Blackmer and Oberle will attend that meeting.

- Report on Effigy Mounds Survey Grant (Oberle)

Following directions from the WI Historical Society, a letter from the Landmarks Commission has been prepared for signature to signal the Commission's intent to apply for the grant. If rewarded, the money will be reimbursed to the city after all costs have been paid. The actual submission of the next round of paper work will be done in November. City Manager Clapper and Parks Director Amundson have been informed and approved of this request. If granted, the Commission will be notified in March of 2017.

- Report on consideration of action regarding tile project (Singer/McDonald)

Singer had invited McDonell, city attorney, to give advice how to best proceed. McDonell asked several questions of the Commission regarding the history of the project. He will draft a proposed letter to McDarison that will summarize the present situation and the wishes of the Commission.

- Report on Whitewater Historic Homes Photo Project (Richardson)

(Singer(s) left the meeting at 6:28 PM.)

Richardson asked McDonell if there were any problems with taking photographs of private homes for this project. McDonell did not believe there would be any problem. He will research this further and get back to the Commission. Richardson reported that he will donate materials for the project. Luckett said that he would be able to assist with materials as well.

- Report on Historic Preservation Display at Library (Luckett)

The display has been installed at the library. Haselow said there has been a lot of interest in the display by library patrons. Blackmer thanked Luckett and the subcommittee for their work.

- Report on Memorial Gateway (Landmark stone entrance to UW-Whitewater (Blackmer)

Blackmer showed an article in the most recent Whitewater Alumni Magazine highlighting the work that had been done.

Unfinished Business

- Continue discussion and prioritize items on which the Landmarks Commission should focus over the next five years

This item will be tabled at this time.

- Mounds Preserve signage project update (Oberle/Kienbaum)

Kienbaum has a farm wagon on which the boulders can be placed. He also has a loader he thinks will be able to load the boulders until the time they are delivered. Oberle said that official clearance must be obtained by the city prior to placing the boulders at the Effigy Mounds Preserve to assure the ground is dry enough in order to make sure no damage would be done to the grounds. Kienbaum suggested that the boulders be placed on the wagon and left there until delivery. Oberle agreed that she would come to the farm to help find the needed boulders. Oberle will also confirm clearance from the city as to when and where the boulders should be delivered.

- Officer slate for 2016/2017 by acclimation

Action was reported above.

- Acquisition of GIS/LIDAR by Walworth County (Richardson)

Richardson has been in contact with Dale Drayna from Walworth County who is in charge of getting this project done. Drayna reported that results will be hopefully obtained by the end of May or the first part of June.

- Research of/naming of/possible plaque information for Brickyard Park (Kienbaum)

Kienbaum is waiting for information from his resources. He will report more at the next meeting.

- Repair of Interactive City Map on web site

Luckett reported that he will be taught how to use the software by Scott Weberpaul. Hopefully, once done, Luckett will be able to repair the interactive map.

- Action by Landmarks Commission regarding tile project

Action was reported above.

New Business

- Prioritize Budgetary needs for Landmarks Commission

Blackmer believes that this will be useful information for the Commission to have. She has developed a list of specific cost items. Luckett stated that there should be no surprises to the city for costs. Blackmer would like reoccurring costs delineated. Commissioners brainstormed the following, possible list:

Convention fees

Mailings and postage

Professional dues

Speaker fees

Reception costs

Office supplies

Brochure preparation and printing

Annual, May display at the library

Advertising (informational outreach)

Capital items (Archival cataloging, reframing, restoring, and digitizing the Pescheret paintings)

Labeling and cataloguing historical, personal property

Luckett suggested that the Commission should try and have an estimated amount for each item.

- Potential Public History Intern from UW-Whitewater
Oberle contacted Dr. Levy at UW-W, History Department. He thinks this is a great project and will push the idea with his students this fall. Oberle will prepare a draft internship description for the Commission to review and revise. Levy also encouraged the Commission to approach the school of education for possible interns.
- Individual Commission members action plan for June
Kienbaum – research on Brickyard Park; boulders for the EMP
Richardson – continue photo project
Haselow – various project research (Good Morning; labels)
Oberle – plaques and GMA printing cost research; contacting the city regarding the delivery of the signage boulders
Luckett – fixing the interactive map on the city web site
- Recommendations to the Birge Fountain Committee for conservation/preservation
Blackmer and Oberle suggested that a professional conservator should be hired to give an assessment of the fountain's current condition and what needs to be done to preserve the fountain. This item will be addressed at the next Birge Fountain Committee meeting.
- July Landmarks Commission meeting
Commissioners agreed that the July meeting will be held as scheduled.
- Addition of recent Local Landmarks to brochure(s)
This item is tabled until more budget information is developed.
- Digital/audio recording of meeting minutes
At this time, the Committee will proceed as it usually has done.

Future agenda Items

- Full moon walks at the EMP
- Specific budget estimates
- Monthly Good Morning Feature
- Advertising costs at GMA
- Restoring landmark plaques in the Main Street Historic District
- Labeling of historic, personal property owned by the city
- Pesheret project

Good of the Order

Thank you to Luckett for the work he did on the library display

Adjournment

Blackmer adjourned the meeting at 7:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted

R. Helmick, secretary