



## Whitewater Landmarks Commission

### MINUTES

Thursday, July 7, 2016 – 6:00 PM

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

#### Call to Order

- Call to Order and roll call  
Chairperson Blackmer called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM  
Present: Patricia Blackmer, Suzanne Haselow, Ken Kienbaum, Dan Richardson, Patrick Singer, Richard Helmick  
Absent: Kori Oberle  
Staff present: None  
Guests: None
- Approval of Agenda  
MSC Richardson/Haselow to approve the agenda as posted.  
Ayes: Blackmer, Haselow, Kienbaum, Richardson, Singer, Helmick  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None
- Approval of Minutes – June 2 and June 16, 2016  
MSC Richardson/Haselow to approve the minutes of June 2 as printed.  
Ayes: Blackmer, Haselow, Kienbaum, Richardson, Singer, Helmick  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
MSC Singer/Haselow to approve the minutes of June 16.  
Ayes: Blackmer, Haselow, Kienbaum, Richardson, Singer, Helmick  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None
- Set date and time of next meeting – Thursday, August 4, 2016 - 6:00 PM  
The next meeting of the Landmarks Commission will be held August 4, 2016 at 6:00 PM in the City Manager's Conference Room at city hall.
- 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

- Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve (Helmick/Oberle)  
No report.
- Birge Fountain Report: Basin repair and lighting (Luckett)  
No report.
- Restoration of Landmark Plaques (Main Street Historic District) (Luckett)  
No report.
- Report on budgetary items to City Manager (Luckett)  
Singer reported for Luckett. No other board or commission has a budget. The budget process has started now. The council will not see it until later. Singer said that what is usually done is to have a line item in the budget to cover expenses.
- Report of settlement action regarding tile project (Blackmer)  
Blackmer had contacted the city attorney regarding this issue. He drafted a memo to Taylor asking for the return of items in addition to the molds and drawings. Taylor delivered all the materials to Blackmer who subsequently stored them with Luckett at the White building. Blackmer suggested that there is no value in keeping all the plaques with the exception of a couple that have been completed and are not broken. Haselow asked if it would make sense to hang one of the plaques outside to see how it would weather. Since the project will not be revived, Blackmer saw no value in doing this. Helmick questioned if the Whitewater Historical Society would like to store the completed plaques. Blackmer will contact the WHS to see if it is interested. Helmick suggested that a note of thanks be sent to the city attorney. Blackmer directed the secretary to do this.
- Report on Whitewater Historic Homes Photo Project (Richardson)  
A short discussion ensued. The project is on-going.
- Report on Historic Preservation Display at Library 2017 (Blackmer)  
Looking ahead, the large show case has been reserved for the month of May, 2017. Blackmer suggested that commissioners think of ways to use it in furthering the work of the Commission.
- Strand water system study for replacing Starin Park Water Tower (Singer)  
Singer reported that this work is not to replace the tower. It is to deal with the mechanics of the system. Discussion ensued.
- Full moon walk at Effigy Mounds Preserve (Haselow)  
Haselow has not yet talked to Matt Amundson. She has been sending him emails. Sunset is at 6:52 on September 16. It is suggested that folks can gather at 7:00 PM. at the Preserve. There could be a short introduction directed at the value of the mounds; the oak savanna; and keeping the preserve in as much integrity as we can. She also suggested that there be some guides positioned along the way to answer questions and help direct people. It is estimated that everyone would be out of the preserve by 8:00 PM. Singer said that he would contact Amundson and ask him to get in touch with Haselow. The Friends of the Mounds could possibly be a co-sponsor of this project. Haselow also suggested that a mailer be sent, through the schools, to all the parents of the children. Helmick suggested that the mailing be sent to 2 or 3 grade levels rather than all the elementary grades. Haselow asked for a list of contacts for a press release. Blackmer said she would take care of this.
- City inventory system (Blackmer)  
Blackmer reminded people of Haselow's research on tagging historical property. Blackmer researched other city departments to see if there was a system in effect which the Commission could use. Blackmer remarked that there is money left from the tile project that could cover the cost of purchasing the tags. Singer will talk to the city manager to see if the money could be used for this purpose.

## Unfinished Business

- Mounds Preserve signage project update (Oberle/Kienbaum)  
Kienbaum reports that the boulders are still waiting to be delivered. He and his family would be willing to deliver the boulders to the Preserve as soon as permission is given by the city.
- Acquisition of GIS/LIDAR by Walworth County (Richardson)  
Richardson was able to see how LIDAR works over Indian mounds. He reports that the results are amazing. Unfortunately, Walworth County is working with Sewer Pact to get LIDAR. Sewer Pact is having problems with the vendor.
- Research of/naming of/possible plaque information for Brickyard Park (Kienbaum)  
Kienbaum will look into this and report back at the next meeting.
- Repair of Interactive City Map on web site  
No report.
- Addition of recent Local Landmarks to brochure(s) (Richardson)  
Richardson has the old brochure. He is not sure how the new brochure will be laid out. He suggests that information of similar length as used previously be used for the new acquisitions.
- Five year strategic plan priorities  
Blackmer asked commissioners to select a couple of the items the commission developed last January in order to focus the commission's upcoming work. Curricular development with emphasis on the mounds and a proactive approach to document properties in the city that are of historic value were offered. Blackmer asked for ideas to be shared at the next meeting.
- Lyman Wight Octagon House garage addition oversight  
Blackmer reported that no activity has taken place to date.
- Cases for the original Birge Cherubs built by DPW  
Blackmer will contact city staff and let them know to go ahead with building the cases.
- Possible endorsement by City Council regarding burial site preservation law  
Blackmer asked if the city council would be willing to weigh in on this issue. Singer said that the Commission could work with the city attorney or the city clerk to develop a resolution which could be recommended to the council for passage.

## New Business

- Individual Commission members action plan for August  
Haselow will contact her aunt regarding resolution language; continue on the full moon project  
Kienbaum will continue with the signage project and get back on the Brickyard Park  
Richardson will take pictures of historic homes and re-contact people on the LIDAR project  
Singer will follow up with Cameron on the budget and property tags  
Blackmer will work on press release for the moon walk; curricular development for the mounds; resolution language to offer the city council regarding the sites preservation law.  
Helmick will research resolution language
- July Landmarks Commission meeting  
No report
- In-service regarding Whitewater City Landmarks Ordinance for city staff and Landmarks Commission members  
Blackmer still believes this is needed in order to make sure all city staff are on the same page with the Commission. Helmick suggested that the Commission contact Neighborhood Services department to ask them if they have any questions or suggestions. Blackmer suggested that we try and plan this for the September meeting. She will also contact Neighborhood Services.
- Discussion regarding replacement of Luckett as staff liaison to Landmarks Commission  
Singer reported that Michelle Smith has volunteered to be the staff representative on the Commission. She will be in attendance at the next meeting.

- August 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Legislative Council Study Committee revisiting burial site preservation laws in Madison  
This will be an open meeting. Commissioners were encouraged to attend.

**Future Agenda Items**

None were reported.

**Good of the Order**

- Blackmer thanked Lockett for all of his help in supporting the goals of the commission. He will be missed.

**Adjournment**

Blackmer adjourned the meeting at 7:05 PM.

Respectively submitted,  
R. Helmick, Secretary