



Whitewater Landmarks Commission

MINUTES

Thursday, April 7, 2022 – 6:00 PM
Municipal Building, Cravath Lakefront Room
312 W Whitewater St, Whitewater, WI 53190

Call to Order and Roll Call

- Chairperson Blackmer called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Present: Patricia Blackmer, Karen Coburn, Ken Kienbaum, Dan Richardson, Lukas Schreiber

Absent: Ben Adamitus

Staff present: Olivia Pratt

Others: Bunnie Hagemeister

Approval of Agenda

- Schreiber made a motion to approve the Agenda for this meeting, seconded by Richardson.

Ayes: Blackmer, Coburn, Kienbaum, Richardson, Schreiber

Noes: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Adamitus

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Schreiber made a motion to approve the minutes from March 3, 2022 with a second by Richardson.

Ayes: Blackmer, Coburn, Kienbaum, Richardson, Schreiber

Noes: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Adamitus

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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.

Set date of next meeting – May 5, 2022 at 6pm

Reports

- Update on Birge Fountain Committee Ordinance Repeal, Landmarks Commission Oversight

Chairperson Blackmer reported that the fountain will not be up and running until after Spring Splash, which is the weekend of April 23, 2022.

- Update on City Manager's Plan for the Effigy Mounds Preserve and work completed to date

Chairperson Blackmer reported that two piles of brush were burned at Effigy Mounds Preserve, and she sent an electronic album to Commission members of photos taken during the controlled burn. A future concern is that if there is going to be a trail put in through Effigy Mounds, the Commission needs to contact the state Historic Preservation Office in order to be permitted to have the necessary machinery in the preserve.

- Walton Oaks Park, Midwest Prairie work completed to date and possible resolve to encroachment issue

Commission member Coburn reported that the City will be giving notice to citizens in the Walton Oaks area that are encroaching on the park and will be putting up fences to limit encroachment. Midwest Prairie has already done some work at the park and will return for invasive species.

Unfinished Business

- Library display case ideas for May

The Commission decided to do a series of photos depicting the Birge Fountain in its many stages. Adamitus offered to help with the setup of the display case.

- Wisconsin Association of Historic Preservation Commissions Conference: April 29, 2022
The WAHPC hosts a 1-day conference covering topics relevant to historic preservation planners, commissioners, and advocates. This year's conference is happening virtually on Friday, April 29, and is free to attend.

- Heritage Day Tour (planning for 2023 Birge Fountain 120th Anniversary)

The first meeting is Monday, April 18 from 2-3pm, outdoors at Tripp Lake Park. It is a preliminary planning meeting.

- Premier Bank as a possible Landmark

More research needs to be done on the architecture and history before Premier Bank can become a local landmark.

New Business

- Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Commission Training (report)

Commission member Coburn attended the training. Chairperson Blackmer hopes a recording will become available online.

- Replacement of Garage door at Bassett House

The owners are getting estimates and photos and will return to the Commission after they have received the bids.

- Report on location of historic feedmill (Kienbaum)

Commission member Kienbaum reported that the feedmill wasn't actually a mill, but used to be where supplies were stored after coming in on train cars and the farmers would go to the feedmill to pick up their supplies. The historical society is a good place for further research.

Future Agenda Items

- Heritage Day tour ideas
- Library display case
- Premier Bank possible landmark
- Replacement of garage door at Bassett House
- Update on City Manager's Plan, Birge Fountain Committee, and Walton Oaks Park

Adjournment

- Blackmer adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Olivia Pratt, Staff Representative