

# **AGENDA**

## **Whitewater Landmarks Commission**

**Thursday, March 6, 2013 – 6 PM**

**City Manager's Conference Room**

**312 Whitewater Street, Whitewater, WI 53190**

### **Call to Order**

- Call to Order and roll call
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes – February 6, 2013
- Set date and time of next meeting – Thursday, April 3, 2014 - 6:00 PM
- 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.

### **Reports**

- Friends of the Mounds (Helmick)
- Whitewater Passenger Depot (Marshall)  
Hours: Friday, Saturday, Sunday 1 to 4 p.m.  
Historical exhibit in progress.
- Birge Fountain (Kienbaum)  
Looking for new members for the Board.
- Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve (Helmick)
- Plan and Architectural Review Commission Meeting – March 10 – 6PM (Kienbaum)

### **Unfinished Business**

- Discussion of criteria for historically significant property. (Birkeland)
- Consideration of FOTEM brochure (Helmick)

### **New Business**

- Annual Preservation and Activities Report for the state of Wisconsin (Christ)
- Wisconsin Association of Historic Preservation Commissions Spring Conference
- Armory
- Shed by the Lutheran Church (Popke)
- Wisconsin Historical and Archeological Month Activities - May
- Plaques for local landmarks

### **Future Agenda Items**

- National Park Service Annual Products Report for Certified Local Governments
- Landmarks Commission Board Opening – 04/30/2014

### **Good of the Order**

### **Adjournment**

**Minutes**  
**Whitewater Landmarks Commission**  
**Thursday, February 6, 2013 – 6 PM**  
**City Manager's Conference Room**  
**312 Whitewater Street, Whitewater, WI 53190**

**Call to Order**

- Call to Order and roll call

Vice Chairman Marshall called the meeting to order at 6:12 PM

Present: Allan Marshall, Carol Christ, Suzanne Haselow, Suzanne Popke, Sarah Bergant, Ken Kienbaum, Richard Helmick

Absent: None

Staff present: Latisha Birkland

- Approval of Agenda

MSC Marshall/Christ to approve the agenda as presented.

Ayes: Allan Marshall, Carol Christ, Suzanne Haselow, Suzanne Popke, Sarah Bergant, Ken Kienbaum, Richard Helmick

Nays: None

Abstain: None

The agenda was approved.

- Approval of Minutes – December 5, 2013

MSC Marshall/Bergan to approve the minutes as presented with two spelling corrections.

Ayes: Allan Marshall, Carol Christ, Suzanne Haselow, Suzanne Popke, Sarah Bergant, Ken Kienbaum, Richard Helmick

Nays: None

Abstain: None

The minutes were approved.

- Set date and time of next meeting – Thursday, March 6, 2014 - 6:00 PM

The next meeting is set for Thursday, March 6, 2014 at 6:00 PM in the city manager's conference room on the second floor of 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 citizens' comments.

## **Reports**

- Friends of the Mounds (Helmick)

The student brochure describing the Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve was discussed at the November meeting of the Park and Rec Board. At that time, it was decided the brochure would be updated by FOTEM members and then presented to the Landmarks Commission and the Park and Rec Board for their approval.

- Whitewater Passenger Depot, closed for season (Marshall)

The hours the museum will be opened for the rest of February will be Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 1:00 – 4:00 PM. Exhibits are still in progress. Saturday, March 15, the society will be holding its “Whitewater Collects” program. Whatever collection citizens may have, they can bring to the museum and it will be appraised for free.

- Birge Fountain, turned off for season (Kienbaum)

No report.

- Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve – Preservation and Maintenance Plan (Helmick)

No report

## **Unfinished Business**

- Discussion of possible recommendation to the City Council for landmark status of historical items. (Birkeland)

Latisha disseminated a list of specific properties along with designation criteria written in the city’s ordinances. She asked commissioners to review the current language to see if it was still appropriate. Discussion ensued. It was decided to bring this item back at a future meeting when more information is available.

## **New Business**

There was no new business presented.

## **Future Agenda Items**

- First English Church is planning to redo their parking areas. In the process, the church wants to tear down two buildings. Does the church need to come to Landmarks to get approval for their demolition? The buildings in question are within the Historic District. General consensus of the commissioners was yes. Latisha will check with the city attorney for further clarification.
- Review historical records to determine if the city armory building should be designated as a landmark.

## **Good of the Order**

Nothing was discussed.

## **Adjournment**

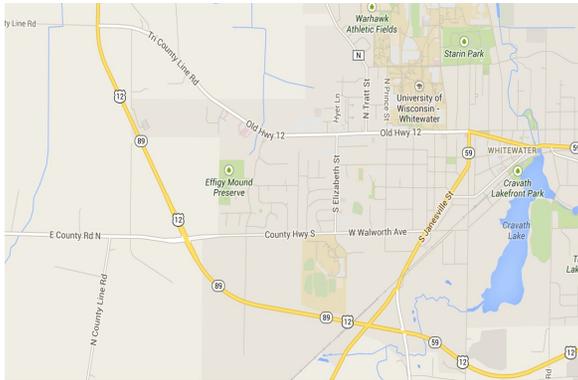
- MSC Marshall/Haselow to adjourn the meeting.
- Ayes: Allan Marshall, Carol Christ, Suzanne Haselow, Suzanne Popke, Sarah Bergant, Ken Kienbaum, Richard Helmick

- Nays: None
- Abstain: None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard Helmick, Secretary

DRAFT



## How to get to the Preserve

**From I-90:** Take the Whitewater exit (exit 116)

Turn right onto Hwy 59

Follow Hwy 59 East to CO Hwy N

Follow CO Hwy N into Whitewater

Turn left onto Indian Mounds Parkway

**From Fort Atkinson:**

Take City Hwy 12 East to Whitewater

Use Main St. or Walworth Ave. exits

Turn onto Indian Mounds Parkway

**From the East:** Hwy 59 to Main St (City Hwy 12)

Stay on Main St to the West end of the city

Turn left onto Indian Mounds Parkway

## Respecting Indian Mounds

Please respect this area. It is a spiritual place of great cultural value.

Please do not walk on the mounds or disturb the soil in any way.

Please, no pets are allowed in the preserve.

**The Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a Whitewater Landmark.**

## For More Information

Please contact one of the following organizations for more information about the Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve:

For site maintenance:

Whitewater Park and Recreation Board  
262-473-0540, [www.whitewater-wi.gov](http://www.whitewater-wi.gov)

For mounds preservation and education:

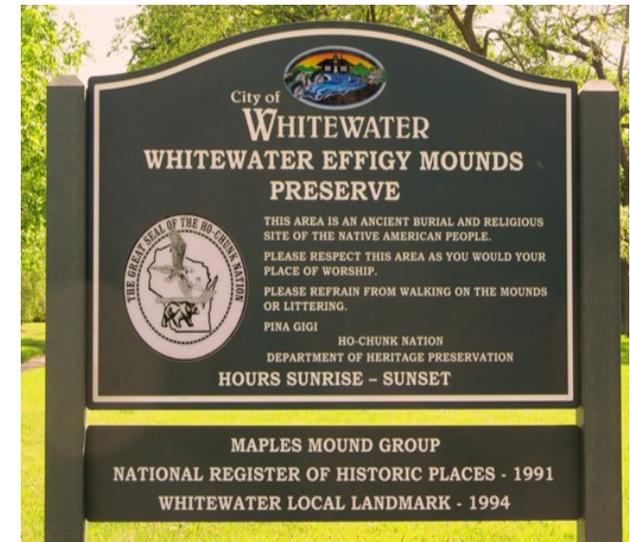
Whitewater Landmarks Commission  
262-473-0102, [www.whitewater-wi.gov](http://www.whitewater-wi.gov)

Hoard Historical Museum  
401 Whitewater Ave. Fort Atkinson, WI  
53538, 920-563-7769

[www.hoardmuseum.org](http://www.hoardmuseum.org)

Tuesdays thru Saturdays, 9:30 to 4:30

# Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve



**288 S. Indian Mound Parkway**

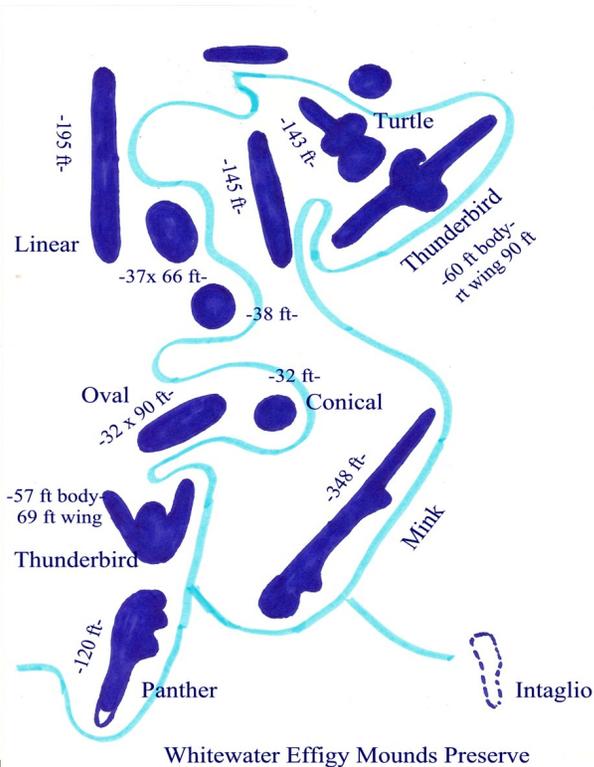
**Whitewater, Wisconsin**

**Hours: Sunrise to Sunset**

## Parking

Free street parking is available along both sides of Indian Mounds Parkway as well as on the adjoining side streets.

## Trail Map



Measurements by Charles E. Brown, 1920

The entrance to the Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve is on the west side of Indian Mound Parkway. Look for the Preserve's large sign as shown on the front of this brochure. Walk west through the green space toward the opening in the woods.

A level walking path, less than a mile in length, provides easy viewing of the preserve's thirteen mounds. This path will also take you through three distinct areas of vegetation: an Oak Savanna, a stand of Silver Maples and Bur Oaks, and a meadow wetland.

## The Mounds

When visiting the Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve, you will find two distinct types of mounds. One type is geometric in shape, either conical or linear. The other type, effigy mounds, mimic the shapes of various animals.

The majority of mounds in Wisconsin were built by Indians during a time archaeologists call the Woodland Period. They have divided this period into Early Woodland (500 BC – 100 AD), Middle Woodland (100 BC – 500 AD), and Late Woodland (500 AD – 1200 AD). Indian mound-builders built some geometric mounds during the Early and Middle Woodland Periods. They built effigy mounds during the Late Woodland Period.

Most mounds were built near a source of water – lakes, rivers, streams, and springs. At one time, a small stream flowed through the field on the western edge of the Preserve. There still are some small springs located in the northwestern corner.

All Indian mounds were considered places of cultural significance by the peoples who built them. There are some mounds that contain human remains. Others may contain special soils or ornaments made of shell, stone, or copper, sacrificial burnings or evidence of ceremonial dance.

Today the mounds are protected by both state, the Burial Sites Preservation Law (WI Act 316, 1985) and the National Preservation Act (1966). All Indian mounds are considered to be burial sites.



## The Oak Savanna

The remnant of a savanna of oak trees at the Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve is especially important to protect and maintain. It is one of the last remaining stands of Wisconsin's oak savanna.

The term "savanna" refers to an area with widely spaced tall trees, but at a density so low that grasses and other herbaceous vegetation become dominant. In Wisconsin in Pre-settlement times, savannas were one of the most widespread plant communities.

Today, oak savannas may be the rarest plant community in Wisconsin. Prior to European settlement, wildfires and human-caused fires burned prairies, wetlands, and oak savannas. American Indians often burned grasslands to flush out game when hunting. Lightning strikes also ignited prairies, often in close proximity of oak savannas. As a result of agriculture, urban development, and the absence of fire, many of these savannas have been lost.

Today at this Preserve, the practice of prescribed burning mimics the natural disturbance of fire as much as possible.

**WHITEWATER LANDMARKS COMMISSION  
ANNUAL PRESERVATION ACTIVITIES REPORT  
for the Wisconsin Historical Society  
(January – December, 2013)**

The City of Whitewater Landmarks Commission met 11 times between January, 2013 and December, 2013.

There were 10 monthly meetings (No meetings were scheduled in January and July).

There was one annual training session for commissioners (immediately preceding the regular October meeting).

There was one request for a Local Landmark designation by a local resident.

The house did not meet the criteria for designation.

The Commission currently monitors 19 individually listed Landmarks as well as the Main Street Historic District. In 2008, the Commission reviewed and accepted the Architectural and Historic Survey of City of Whitewater properties.

In 2013 Landmarks Commissioners. . .

February

- Began compiling an inventory of historically significant property that is owned by the city.
- Continued work on a new brochure featuring local landmarks.

March

- Placed a list of local landmarks along with their designations on the city website.
- Completed the Annual Preservation Activities Report for the Wisconsin Historical Society
- Attended an Urban Forestry meeting that approved an entrance garden of native plantings (designed by FOTEM – Friends of the Effigy Mounds) for the Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve, a local landmark.

April

- Met with the Tourism Council and obtained funding for the new local landmarks brochure.
- Attended Wisconsin Association of Historical Preservations Commissions in Milton, WI.
- Attended a Parks and Recreation Board meeting that approved and funded the entrance garden of native plantings for the Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve.
- Completed a new baseline questionnaire for CLG's for the National Park Service.
- Completed Annual Products Report for CLG's for the National Park Service.
- Attended the grand opening of the Whitewater Passenger Depot, a restored local landmark.

May

- Viewed a presentation by a UW- Whitewater student who works with Pangea Studios. This digital story map would showcase all 19 local landmarks and be available on the city website as well as accessible to digital devices.

**FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND ARCHEOLOGICAL MONTH:**

- Worked with the city of Whitewater to issue proclamations on May 7, honoring both Wisconsin Historical Preservation Month and Wisconsin Archeological Month.
- Presented Annual Activities report to the Whitewater City Council on May 7.

- Hosted a talk by Rob Nurre as he portrayed Increase Lapham and his work with effigy mounds in Wisconsin. The presentation was video-taped to be shown on Whitewater Community Television.
- After the talk, FOTEM members conducted a tour of the Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve which was video-taped.
- Educated the community by showing videos of past work of the commission on Saturdays in May on Whitewater Community Television.
- Invited 3 retiring commissioners, Mariann Scott, Linda Loomer, and Nancy Wendt for a pizza get together to thank them for their service.

#### June

- Whitewater Passenger Depot is listed on the National Register on June 12, 2013.
- Local Landmarks Brochure is completed, posted on Landmarks page (city website) and distributed to public via Tourism Council.

#### August

- Received a request from a resident of 302 S. Prince for local landmark status. Sent application materials to resident.
- Pangea Studios story map completed and put on Landmarks page (city website).
- Completed updates to Architectural and Historical Survey of Whitewater (2008).
- Completed online Preservation Advocacy Survey for Wisconsin Historical Society.

#### September

- Native plantings in the entrance garden of the Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve were completed by FOTEM members.

#### October

- Annual training session. Presentation by Joe DeRose regarding local, state, and national registries. Presentation was video-taped.
- Attended the Wisconsin Historical Society Preservation Conference.

#### November

- Received application for 302 S. Prince re local landmark designation. Reviewed and decided it did not meet criteria.

#### December

- Reviewed a brochure of the effigy mounds that was completed by UW-Whitewater students.
- Reviewed list of historically significant city owned property.

### **Looking ahead to 2014, the Whitewater Landmarks Commission is planning:**

- \*Develop criteria for historically significant property and a system of cataloging items.
- \*Put up an educational display at the Irvin L. Young Memorial Library in May.
- \*Plan activities for Wisconsin Historical Preservation Month and Archeological Preservation Month.
- \*Develop an informational panel documenting the history of the White Memorial FREE Library.
- \*Consider designating local landmark(s).