

WHITEWATER LANDMARKS COMMISSION

Wednesday, September 1, 2010

- I. Call to Order & roll call
 - a. Meeting called to order at 5p.m. by Chair Mariann Scott.
 - b. All active members present: Linda, Carol, Mariann, Kim, Marilyn, and Brandon. Guest present: Richard Helmick.
- II. Approval of Agenda and rearrangement.
 - a. The agenda was rearranged to have items VI and XII discussed when City Attorney arrived.
 - b. Carol moved to approve the agenda, Linda seconded. Agenda was approved as rearranged by a voice vote.
- III. Approval of the minutes.
 - a. Minutes from August were not approved as they were not emailed to members of the committee.
- IV. Next Meeting
 - a. The next meeting was set for October 6, 2010 at 5p.m.
- V. Kathleen announced her resignation from the committee and encouraged others to apply for her open position.

OLD BUSINESS

- VII. Friends of the Mounds (See next item)
- VIII. Effigy Mounds Task Force
 - a. Richard Helmick reported that they were still getting bids for the Task Force to review in regards to the maintenance of the Effigy Mounds park. He said proposals are due on September 2nd or 3rd. Deadline for comments was last Friday. He also discussed the how the city budget has specific budget items for the Skatepark, as an example, and the Effigy Mounds park could potentially fall under four different budget categories, so the Task Force was exploring the possibility of the Effigy Mounds park getting its own budget item to alleviate that confusion and streamline the whole process of receiving funds.
- VI. Proposed Landmarks Commission Bylaws
 - a. City Attorney Wally was present to discuss with the commission the proposed bylaws. He stated that the bylaws were in a very simple format, and not very formal on procedure.
 - b. Specific sections discussed:
 - i. Article 3, Section 2; the possibility of increasing the 24-hour period to a 72-hour period was discussed, as well as four members being required to call a meeting, rather than a simple majority of current members.
 - ii. Article 3, section 3; Requiring Quorum to simply be 4 members instead of the current language was discussed.
 - iii. Article 3, section 4; requiring four members to vote in the affirmative to take action, rather than a simple majority of members present.

- iv. Article 2, section 1; That the Chair would receive agenda requests.
- v. Article 2, section 5; that the election of the secretary be included in this section.
- c. Possible additions (not specified where)
 - i. Amendment process to the bylaws
 - ii. Terms of members
 - iii. Appointment of members. Should commission members be involved in the appointment of commissioners?
 - iv. Training for commissioners

NEW BUSINESS

XII. Transparency Ordinance

- a. The proposed Transparency Ordinance and its affect on the Commission was discussed. Questions were raised regarding emails and personal discussions. The City Attorney state that that was a gray area of the open meetings laws, something that has not been fully explained or cleared up.
- b. The only feedback provided was that the ordinance essentially has no teeth, that is, it has no authority to punish anyone or any committee for violating the ordinance. If it has no teeth, then what's the purpose, a commissioner asked.

OLD BUSINESS

VIII. Task Force (continued...)

- a. Mariann asked if the proposals for maintenance requested by the City were going to the Task Force or to the Friends. The suggestion was made that maybe the city should form one committee from the members of both organizations to help oversee this one area, as it seems that this park falls under so many jurisdictions.

IX. Birge Fountain Figures

- a. Linda reported that the issue of getting glass was sent to Whitewater Glass, which had a piece of tempered glass for \$20 that would work very well for our purposes. Ed McCulloch was working on a frame for the glass. Once all of these tasks are complete, the whole thing goes to Bruce Parker for approval.

X. Rockefeller House

- a. No update

XI. Possible Future Local Landmark Designations

- a. Pescheret House
 - i. No contact back from Mercy Healthcare.
- b. Henderson House
 - i. No update.
- c. Historic Districts
 - i. No update.

NEW BUSINESS

XIII. Stone Pillars at UW-W

- a. The stone pillars at Whiton and Main street need to be moved to install the stoplight at the intersection. These pillars were apparently a class gift to the university, and do have historical significance.

- b. Carol moved that the Commission write up a letter to the DOT explaining the historical significance of the pillars and asking to keep the Commission in loop on communication regarding the issue, seconded by Kim. Voice vote approved.
- XIV. Certificate of Appropriateness Process for Train Depot and Skindingsrude Building postponed
- XV. Lake Geneva conference, October 15 and 16. Reservations due by September 7; contact Michelle Smith for more information and for reservations.
- XVI. Budget Request
 - a. Budget request was submitted for \$500.
- XVII. Future Agenda Items
 - a. Train Depot – back on the agenda
 - b. Skindingsrude – back on the agenda
 - c. Tour of older houses – back on the agenda
 - d. Whiton & Conger – back on the agenda
 - e. Leaflets and other materials – back on the agenda
- XVIII. Adjournment
 - f. Carol moved to adjourn at 6:45 p.m., 2nd by Linda. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Brandon VerVelde
Secretary – Whitewater Landmarks Commission