

Minutes
Whitewater Landmarks Commission
Thursday, September 5, 2013, 6:00 p.m.
City Manager's Conference Room
312 Whitewater Street, Whitewater, WI 53190

Call to Order

- **Call to Order and roll call** – Welcome new member
The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Christ at 6:04 PM
Present: Carol Christ, Suzanne Haselow, Suzanne Popke, Alan Marshall, Ken Kienbaum
(arrived at 6:20 PM), Richard Helmick
Absent: Sarah Bregant
Staff present: None
Susan Popke was introduced and welcomed as a new commission member.
- **Approval of Agenda and possible rearrangement**
MSC Marshall/Haselow to accept the agenda as presented.
Ayes: Christ, Haselow, Popke, Marshall, Helmick
Noes: None
Abstain: None
The agenda was approved as presented.
- **Approval Minutes – August of 1, 2013**
MSC Marshall/Haselow to accept the minutes of August 1, 2013 as presented.
Ayes: Christ, Haselow, Popke, Marshall, Helmick
Noes: None
Abstain: None
The minutes were approved as presented.
- **Set date and time of next meeting** – Tuesday, October 8, 2013 - 6:00 PM
- **Set date and time of annual training session**
The setting of the date for the annual training session was postponed until all the commissioners were present.
- **Election of chair, vice-chair and secretary**
The elections were postponed until all commissioners were present.
- **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

- **Friends of the Mounds (Helmick)**
 - Plantings. The planting of the prairie garden along Indian Mounds is completed. There have been some difficulties securing water for the plants. A neighbor living in the nearby condos has been very helpful in trying to arrange alternative watering.
 - Benches. The stone benches have been replaced within the mounds area. There are now four benches within the preserve.
- **Whitewater Passenger Depot (Marshall)** –
The hours that the depot is opened have been changed due to staffing arrangements. The new hours are Thursdays, 1:00 – 4:00 PM; Friday, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM; Sat. 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM; and Sun., 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM.
- **Birge Fountain (Kienbaum)** –
The committee has not met. There is some confusion of the date of the next meeting. Christ will call Michelle Smith and/or Roy Nosek to see if/when the meeting will occur.

- **Pangea Story Map (Christ) -**
The map is on the city web site. The QR code on the printed guide is not functioning. Christ and Alan Lockett are working to correct this problem.
- **Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve – Preservation and Maintenance Plan (Helmick)**
 - The new, entrance trail has been established.
 - Research into the original dimensions of the mounds is still on-going.

Unfinished Business

- **Request for Landmarks Designation** – 302 South Prince. Ms. Portman has not presented her application. Once her application is received, the commission will debate its merits.
- **Implementing 17.08.040 of Title 17** re city-owned historically significant personal property. No report at this time.
- **Corrections to Architectural and Historical Survey of Whitewater Wisconsin.** Christ passed out the corrections for commissioners to put into their Landmarks notebooks. The corrections to the survey that is on the city’s web site have been corrected.
- **2013 WHS Preservation Conference October 11-12, 2013 Wisconsin Rapids**
Suzanne Popke has volunteered to attend the conference for one day, Oct. 12.

New Business

- **National Preservation Conference** October 30 – November 2, 2013 Indianapolis
- **Discussion – Questions re: historic districts.** The commission decided to develop a list of questions concerning historic districts as well as other matters and invite Joe DeRose, WHS, to attend a Landmarks meeting to give us the state’s perspective. Helmick will contact DeRose to set up a date. Some questions to be asked:
 - What are the differences between local, state, and national register historic districts?
 - What criteria does a business district need to meet to be eligible for national and state district status?
 - Are there communities in WI that have landmark ordinances that specify recommendations and mandates for individual properties and/or districts listed on the National Register? If so, which communities are similar to Whitewater?
 - How do other communities with UW campuses (i.e. Stevens Point, Oshkosh, Eau Claire, LaCrosse) work with owners of student rental properties? Do they have landmark ordinances that specify requirements of property owners of historic structures that are occupied by student renters?
 - What constitutes a “Historic Person” as it relates to a local designation of a property (in reference to Ms. Portman’s upcoming application)

Future Agenda Items

- Designation of local landmarks – city or private property
- Plaques for Whitewater sites on National Register

Good of the Order

Christ expressed a “thank you” to Alan Lockett for his assistance on the update of the historical survey.

Adjournment

MSC Marshall/Haselow to adjourn.

Ayes: Christ, Haselow, Popke, Marshall, Helmick, Kienbaum

Noes: None

Abstain: None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Helmick, Secretary