



Whitewater Landmarks Commission

MINUTES

Thursday, July 6, 2023 – 6:00 PM

Municipal Building, Cravath Lakefront Room
312 W Whitewater St, Whitewater, WI 53190

Call to Order and Roll Call

- Ben Adamitus called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Ben Adamitus, Kori Oberle, James Ohm, Dan Richardson, Jamie Weigel

Absent: Lukas Schreiber, Karen Coburn

Others: Gloria Buley, Jason Jerman, John Marshall

Approval of Agenda

- Ohm moved to approve the agenda with a suggestion by Adamitus that Unfinished Business be moved up the Agenda under Call to Order and Roll Call. Oberle seconded the motion.

Ayes: Adamitus, Richardson, Oberle, Ohm, Weigel

Nays: None

Motion passed

Approval of the Meeting Minutes of June 1, 2023

- Oberle moved that the Minutes of the June 1, 2023 meeting be approved with a second by Ohm.

Ayes: Richardson, Oberle, Ohm, Adamitus, Weigel

Nays: None

Motion passed

Unfinished Business

- City-owned landmarks assessment of condition, maintenance and/or repair needs and progress, future plans, etc.
 - Oberle reported that the four once-missing parts of the Birge Fountain have been restored (painted) and are now ready for reinstallation. Oberle will contact the DPW to re-install them
 - Adamitus/Oberle reported that the party for the Birge Fountain was a success. Some donations were accepted and another memorial donation is forthcoming. The city is behind the fundraising efforts of the group to raise funds for the upcoming work that will be needed for the Birge Fountain.

- Oberle reported that mowing has been accomplished at the Effigy Mounds Preserve and the mounds are now visible. The mowing has been effective. She further noted that permission had been granted to bring back the archaeologist.
- Weigel noted that she is in contact with teachers and administrators of Whitewater schools. Some plans are underway to incorporate the Mounds Preserve into their curriculums.
- Gloria Buley reported that she has been working on an event to be held to be a fundraiser for the Birge Fountain. At this point it will include a fish boil, a band, and a beer tent. She will now approach the appropriate departments of the city to get the appropriate permits and apprise them of the event plans. She further noted that a T-shirt design has been made promoting the fundraising for the Fountain.
- A motion was made by Oberle and seconded by Ohm to thank Gloria Buley for her efforts on behalf of the fundraising for the Birge fountain to date and to approve of her current plans for the fundraising event. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Reports

- Adamitus reported that digitization and consolidation of local landmark and nomination documentation is still ongoing.
- Ohm reported that the landmarks education series next segment will be a two-part program on the Whitewater Depot. There has been 800+ hits to date on the first two segments. Help in production is now forthcoming from Community TV.

New Business

- Jason Jerman requested permission to modify his previous scope of work on the Walworth (Landmark) Hotel project from 12 inch shingle reveals in the gables to 9 inch reveals—all to match the shingle reveal on the front of the hotel. Further he noted that a contractor will begin work on the previously approved hotel project later this month.
 - A motion was made by Weigel to approve the requested change to the 9 inch reveal instead of the 12 inch reveal as requested. Motion was seconded by Ohm. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote. Request granted.
- John Marshall presented a request to change two arched windows on the rear of the landmarked house at 122 Esterly Street to a 61 inch wide door.
 - A motion was made by Ohm and seconded by Weigel that the request be denied. It was the consensus of the all the landmarks commission members that the requests would be too dramatic a change to the façade of the house to be in appropriate conformity to the landmarks ordinance. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote. Request denied.
- Adamitus reported that corrections to the city website regarding the Landmarks Commission are ongoing.

Future Agenda Items

- Suggested future agenda items include digitization, corrections to the city website regarding the landmarks commission and fundraising event for the Birge Fountain.

Adjournment

- Having completed the approved agenda Adamitus adjourned the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Richardson, Citizen Member