

**WHITEWATER LANDMARKS COMMISSION
ANNUAL PRESERVATION ACTIVITIES REPORT
(January – December, 2018)**

The City of Whitewater Landmarks Commission's regularly scheduled meetings were held eleven (11) times between February 2018 and December 2018.

The Commission currently monitors 24 individually listed Landmarks as well as the Main Street Historic District.

In 2008, the Commission reviewed and accepted the Architectural and Historic Survey of Whitewater properties completed by Carol Cartwright which is still used. It provides information to the Commission with regard to existing structures that would qualify to be designated as Local Landmarks.

In 2018 the Landmarks Commission completed the following:

March

- Approved renovations to the Landmark Hotel submitted by current owner, Randy Aschbrenner.
- Continued the ongoing photographic history of Whitewater homes and buildings (intent is to photograph all existing structures in Whitewater).
- Submitted educational articles regarding the Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve to the Walworth County Historical Society's "Kids Legacy" aimed at 4th graders studying Indian history.
- Met with Bill Bown (Strive On) regarding inclusion of Local Landmarks on this app.

April

- Completed the inventory of known historic city owned property (items are tagged with inventory numbers).
- Partnered with the Whitewater Federation of Women's Clubs to begin planning a tour of historic homes to aid with major restorations of the Bassett House.

May

- Installed a display at the Irwin Young Memorial Library regarding National/State Historic Archeological/Historic Preservation Month focusing on the Whitewater Effigy Mounds Preserve.
- Submitted tours and events that the public could attend regarding Commission programs to the Wisconsin Historical Society website.
- Assisted with the May 9th program featuring Kori Oberle, President of FOTEM who discussed the Effigy Mounds and conducted a guided early evening tour of the preserve.
- Conducted guided tours of the Effigy Mounds Preserve on May 19th with 30 people in attendance.
- Sent letters of appreciation regarding care and maintenance to the owners of all locally designated Landmarks in the city of Whitewater.
- Presented the 2017 Annual Preservation Activities Report to the Whitewater City Council.
- Received proclamations for Wisconsin Historic Preservation Month and Wisconsin Archeological month from the city manager.

June

- Partnered with the Irwin Young Memorial Library to develop a "STEM Kit" of instructional information regarding the Effigy Mounds Preserve for the summer reading program.
- Approved electrical and security upgrades to the exterior of the Bassett House requested by Kori Oberle after vandalism occurred.

- Contacted the municipal court regarding increased vandalism and theft to Local Landmarks and the need to enforce fines and restitution.

July

- Instigated the Main Street Historic District Lamp Post Banner Project to commemorate the 30th anniversary in 2019 of the Main Street Historic District which was placed on the National Register in 1989.
- Commission members Jimmy Schulgit/Chris Munz-Pritchard began work on increased fines to National/State Register and Local Landmark structures.
- Letters sent to Chuck Nass congratulating him on his retirement from the DPW and Brad Morton and family on the purchase of the Starin Mansion (Local Landmark) on Fremont Street.

August

- Participated in a joint project between the University of Wisconsin Survey Center and the Wisconsin State Historical Society to examine and analyze the work of Certified Local Government Historic Preservation Commissions.
- Completed additional written copy and photography for the reprint of the Landmarks Commission brochure .
- Planning for the Whitewater Heritage Day Tour on June 23, 2019 initiated between the Landmarks Commission, Whitewater Federation of Women's Clubs, Downtown Whitewater, Whitewater Historical Society, Public Library, City of Whitewater and the Cultural Arts Alliance. Committee will meet on a monthly basis (or more) until the event.

September

- Contacted ATT regarding historical signage to be placed on the terrace at the corner of Center and Fremont Streets, former site of the Morris Pratt Institute.
- Designated Oak Grove Cemetery as a Local Landmark and sent press releases to area media.

October

- Commission members attended the Wisconsin State Historical Society Annual Preservation Conference in Elkhart Lake.
- Ordinance regarding increase in fines for theft and vandalism of Local Landmarks presented to Common Council.

November

- Nomination of the Territorial Oak Site submitted by Kori Oberle for review by the Commission Cameron Clapper, City Manager and Common Council.
- Suggested drafts for signage at the corner of Jefferson and Starin Roads regarding the historic brickyard and foundry sites developed.

December

- Main Street Historic District Lamp Post Banner Project grant awarded to Commission from the Whitewater Community Foundation in the amount of \$1,000.
- Letters sent to property owners in the Main Street Historic District to solicit private donations for the banner project. (\$400 received through this campaign).
- Savings account set-up at First Citizens Bank under the umbrella of the Whitewater Community Foundation regarding funds designated for the banner project.
- Additional security lighting approved for the Bassett House due to increased vandalism at the Local Landmark.

Looking ahead to 2019, the Landmarks Commission is planning:

- To reprint the Whitewater Landmarks Brochure including the addition of 6 Local Landmarks with financial assistance from the Whitewater Tourism Bureau
- To submit a grant to the Whitewater Tourism Bureau requesting \$500 for the banner project.
- Continue to support and be a part of the Irwin L. Young Library programs regarding Local Landmark education.
- To designate the Territorial Oak Site as a Local Landmark.
- To assist with historic signage content and photos for the dog park.
- To publicize the 30th Anniversary of the Main Street Historic District.
- To co-sponsor and plan the Whitewater Heritage Day Tour on June 23, 2019.
- To plan activities for the Wisconsin Historical Preservation and Archeological Preservation Month.
- To present an informational table regarding the Whitewater Landmarks Commission at the Wisconsin State Historical Society's annual conference in October 2019 at the Grand Geneva Resort in Lake Geneva.