

EAU CLAIRE LANDMARKS COMMISSION

Meeting of April 6, 2015

Members Present: Katrinka Bourne, Dave Strobel, Carrie Ronnander, Ken Ziehr, John Mann

Members Absent: Brady Foust, Jane Seymour Kunick

Minutes: The minutes of the March 2, 2015, meeting were approved as written.

The meeting was chaired by Katrinka Bourne and called to order at 4:30 p.m.

1. **Review of Revised Guidelines for Historic Loan Program.** The Commission reviewed the revised guidelines for the Historic Loan Program. The revisions expand the scope of the loan program to include non-residential buildings that are locally landmarked. The Commission discussed the loan program and its funding sources. Pat Ivory noted that funds not used by the end of the funding year are returned back to be used for other projects. The Commission directed staff to discuss this issue with the CDBG Administrator to see if funds could be periodically carried over in order to provide adequate funding for the program. Current funding levels are not sufficient to accommodate most requests.

ACTION TAKEN: John Mann moved to approve the revisions to the loan program. Ken Ziehr seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

2. **Discussion of Future Local Landmark Designations.** The Commission continued their discussion from previous meetings about future local landmark designations. Ken Ziehr informed the Commission that the owners of 302-310 West Grand Avenue was not ready at the present time to proceed with the designation of their property. Katrinka Bourne indicated that she was still attempting to meet with the owner of 1615 State Street. Pat Ivory stated that the owners of Saint Edwards Chapel located at 1129 Bellevue Avenue agreed to have they property locally designated and the owners of 1819 Lyndale Avenue were still discussing the issue.

The Commission also suggested possible designations of the S-bridge and high bridge this summer once the work on the high bridge is completed. The former Parks and Recreation Building on First Avenue was also discussed at it was suggested that the owners of the property be contacted. The Commission also reviewed a listing of property owners within the Water Street National Register District. The Commission asked staff to contact Mr. John Mogensen to discuss the possibility of local designation of the district, since Mr. Mogensen appeared to be one of the primary property owners within the area.

Finally, the Commission discussed possible meeting dates to consider the local designation of 1129 Bellevue Avenue and decided that the public hearing should be scheduled for the Commission's June meeting.

3. **Update on Landmark Activities and Properties, including:**

- A. **Update on 1004 Menomonie Street.** The Commission continued their discussion regarding the request to demolish the Kaiser Lumber Company Office at 1004 Menomonie Street. Since the previous meeting, the Rolbiecki's met with Darryl Tufte, Director of the Community Development Department.

Topics discussed included: parking requirements of the City's Zoning Ordinance, possible reductions to those requirements, provisions for off-site parking, required setbacks for the site, and the Rolbiecki's discussed general concepts about possible additions to the building. It was noted that any addition would require Landmarks Commission approval and would have to be consistent with the design and architecture of the building. Jane Seymour Kunick was absent from the meeting and not able to report on information relating to the feasibility of moving the building. Dave Strobel indicated that he would talk to someone from the UWEC Foundation about issues related to the proposed event center and the Kaiser Lumber Company Office Building.

- B. Update on the status of the CLG grant application.** Pat Ivory discussed the recent grant award of funds from the Wisconsin Historical Society of \$19,000 from the Certified Local Government Grant Program to update the City's Historic Intensive Survey. Pat discussed targeting the survey work to specific areas located on the periphery of the areas previously surveyed by the State Historical Society. The Commission also noted that there were some areas that were previously surveyed that could be re-evaluated; such as along Hoover Avenue and the Canfield/Drummond Street area. The objective of the survey is to review properties that were constructed over 40 years ago to identify those that have historic or architectural significance.
- C. Report from Historic Preservation Foundation.** Bruce Gardow, from the Historic Preservation Foundation, was present at the meeting to discuss projects the HPF is currently undertaking. Projects include: looking to expand the role of the HPF to cover the County, preparing histories for County communities or areas that no longer exist, working with the School District to provide some local architecture education, developing a collection of photos of buildings that have been demolished over the years. Bruce indicated that the HPF has an intern from the University assisting them on these projects. The Commission suggested that the HPF contact the Chippewa Valley Museum to coordinate work on several of these projects.
- D. Tour Booklet Update.** Pat Ivory updated the Commission on the process to update the Commission's 2002 Tour Booklet. Pat indicated that he anticipated that work would start in September.
- E. Preservation Month.** The Commission discussed possible activities and a proclamation for Preservation Month in May.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Submitted by,



Minutes submitted by Patrick Ivory