

**EAU CLAIRE
LANDMARKS COMMISSION**

Meeting of January 4, 2016

Members Present: Ken Ziehr, Dave Strobel, Brady Foust, Jane Seymour Kunick, Dale Poynter

Members Absent: John Mann (also one vacancy on the Commission)

Minutes: The minutes of the December 7, 2015, meeting were approved as written (Dale Poynter abstained).

Dale Poynter was welcomed to the Commission. Dale will serve as the architect for the Commission.

Election of Officers. The following officers were appointed by the Commission:

- A. Chairperson.** Ken Ziehr moved to nominate John Mann as Chairperson. Brady Foust seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

- B. Vice-Chairperson.** Brady Foust moved to nominate Dale Poynter as Vice-Chairperson. Ken Ziehr seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

Commendation Plaques. The Commission presented plaques to Katrinka Bourne and Carrie Ronnander for their years of service on the Commission.

- 1. Public Hearing on the Consideration of the Local Landmark Designation of 1300 First Avenue pursuant to Chapter 2.65.** The Commission held a public hearing to consider the local landmark designation of 1300 First Avenue, the former Eau Claire Vocational School. The building was constructed in 1901 and was listed on the National Register in 2014.

The building was first occupied by the Eau Claire Trunk Company, which continued to operate from the building until 1918. It was then occupied by various other businesses until 1941, when the Eau Claire Vocational School remodeled and moved into the building. The period of significance for the building based on the National Register nomination is from 1941 to 1967, the time-frame that the Vocational School occupied the building.

Victor Sorensen asked if the designation would have any effect on his neighboring property. The Commission responded that the designation pertained only to 1300 First Avenue.

Jeremy Gragert spoke in support of the nomination.

Carrie Ronnander spoke in support of the nomination. Carrie noted that there were few mid-1900 examples of landmark properties within the City.

The Commission discussed the nomination and noted the historical importance of the building with its association with the Eau Claire Vocational School.

ACTION TAKEN: Brady Foust moved to approve the designation of 1300 First Avenue as a local landmark as provided in Chapter 2.65 of the City Code noting the building's historic significance for its association with the Eau Claire Vocational School in that it exemplifies the broad cultural and social history of the community. Ken Ziehr seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

2. **Discussion of 2015 and 2016 Commission Work Programs.** The Commission reviewed the 2015 Commission work program noting projects that were completed, those that were ongoing or in progress, and those that were not completed. Pat Ivory noted that several major projects started in 2015 would be completed in 2016. As part of this discussion, the Commission also discussed the draft 2016 work program. The Commission noted several projects that should be considered a fairly high priority, including completing the CLG Grant, completing the update of the Landmarks Tour Booklet, consideration of the local landmark designation of one or more National Register properties, and completing the update of the contractor listing.


Pat noted that he would draft the 2016 work program based on the Commission's discussion and present it to the Commission for discussion at the February meeting.

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

- A. **CLG Grant Project.** The Commission discussed the status of the CLG grant project. They noted their disappointment that none of the Downtown buildings studied by the consultant were identified as eligible for the National Register. The Commission noted that the consultant should consider emphasizing the history of the 204 East Grand Avenue property to the Wisconsin Historical Society.
- B. **Tour booklet update.** Pat Ivory updated the Commission on the status of the Landmarks Tour Booklet update. Pat indicated that he had received the first draft of the update from the graphic artist.
- C. **Commission membership for 2016.** The Commission discussed their membership for 2016. There is still one vacancy on the Commission.
- D. **Report from Historic Preservation Foundation.** There was no report.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Submitted by,


Jane Seymour Kunick