

**EAU CLAIRE
LANDMARKS COMMISSION**

Meeting of November 7, 2016

Members Present: John Mann, Dale Poynter, Brady Foust, Joan Myers, Ken Ziehr

Members Absent: Dave Strobel, Jane Seymour Kunick

Minutes: The minutes of the October 3, 2016, meeting were approved as written.

The meeting was chaired by John Mann and called to order in the City Council Chambers at 4:30 p.m.

1. **Discussion of UWEC Public History Students work on National Register Nominations.** John Mann discussed a proposal to have students from the UWEC Public History program assist the Commission in the preparation of National Register Nominations for the recent locally designated High Bridge and Soo Line railroad bridges. Both have been identified as eligible for the National Register. The students would also work with the Chippewa Valley Railroad Association on the interpretation of the history of the railroad switching tower that was recently locally designated. This research could lead to a future nomination to the National Register. John indicated that he had discussed this with staff members from the Wisconsin Historical Society. He also discussed the proposal with representatives from the Railroad Association. The project would allow students to gain valuable experience in working with historic properties and assist the Commission in the completion of several important preservation projects.

ACTION TAKEN: Brady Foust moved to support the proposal to have the Commission coordinate with the University on the National Register nominations and the research of the tower. Ken Ziehr seconded the motion. The motion carried with John Mann abstaining.

2. **Landmark Yard Plaques.** Pat Ivory provided an overview of the Commission's current policy for making yard plaques available for properties that are individually designated to the local register and properties listed as pivotal within the locally designated historic districts. Pat discussed two examples of properties that had been included within district designations in the early 1980s that were at that time listed as contributing properties. Recently, additional historical information regarding one of the properties was given to the Commission and the other property recently underwent a significant exterior restoration. The property owners of both properties are now inquiring whether the properties would be eligible for a yard plaque. The Commission discussed their current policy noting that the significance of the property could change over time due to such factors as discussed by the Commission.

ACTION TAKEN: Ken Ziehr moved to amend the Commission's policy regarding the eligibility of properties for yard plaques to include properties located within local landmark districts where the Commission makes a determination that such property would be individually eligible for local designation. Dale Poynter seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

Pat Ivory noted that the eligibility of the two properties will be discussed at a future meeting.

3. Update on Landmark Activities and Properties, including:

- A. Report from Historic Preservation Foundation.** Janice Wnukowski from the Eau Claire Historic Preservation Foundation updated the Commission on recent Foundation activities including the home tour and house hunt. She added that a newsletter would soon be distributed. She noted that the home tour is being planned again for next fall and encouraged members of the Commission to participate in the event next year by helping sell the Commission's tour booklet.
- B. Update on 1004 Menomonie Street.** The Commission was informed that Mr. James Rolbiecki is currently working with Cedar Corp. in preparing plans for the proposed tavern at 1004 Menomonie Street (former Kaiser Lumber Company Office). Plans will be reviewed by the Commission at a future meeting.
- C. Update on Exterior Maintenance of the City Hall Buildings.** Pat noted that staff had a conference call with the Wisconsin Historical Society to discuss details of the window replacement project. Work on the project should begin in 2017.
- D. Wisconsin Historical Society Fall Conference.** John Mann and Pat Ivory provided a recap of sessions they attended at the recent Wisconsin Historical Society Fall Conference.

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

Submitted by,



Jane Seymour Kunick