EAU CLAIRE LANDMARKS COMMISSION

Meeting of January 7, 2019

Members Present: Dale Poynter, Joan Myers, Jane Seymour Kunick, Ken Ziehr, Brady Foust

Members Absent: John Mann, Dave Strobel

Visitors: Janice Wnukowski, Pamela Rasmussen, Aaron White, Kathy Attermeier

The meeting was chaired by Dale Poynter in the Chippewa Room of the L.E. Phillips Public Library and called to order at 4:30 p.m.

Minutes: The minutes of the November 5, 2018 meeting were approved as written. (No

meeting in December.)

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

Brady Foust moved to nominate the current slate of officers for 2019 (John Mann – Chairperson, Dale Poynter – Vice Chairperson, Joan Seymour Kunick – Secretary). Joan Seymour Kunick seconded the motion. The motion carried with Dale Poynter abstaining.

1. <u>Update of the status of the State Theatre.</u> Pamela Rasmussen, President of the Eau Claire Regional Arts Council, was present at the meeting. The Commission had asked Pamela to attend the meeting to discuss the current status of the State Theatre. Pamela indicated that the Regional Arts Council had recently entered into an offer to purchase the State Theatre. She indicated that she could not disclose the name of the person that would be purchasing the property at this time, but it was her understanding that the new owner would be re-using the building and not considering demolition. She added that the sale would be without any contingencies or conditions related to the potential use of the building. She indicated that the non-compete clause that had been discussed at one time was not part of the agreement to sell the property.

Kathy Attermeier asked whether the building was locally designated and expressed concern about whether the building could be demolished. Pat Ivory indicated that the building was on the National Register, but not locally landmarked. The Commission had approached the Regional Arts Council about local designation in the past, but the Council was not interested at that time.

The Commission discussed the building and noted that once the sale becomes public, that they would like to be able to talk to the new owner to discuss the proposed use of the building and the availability of the State and Federal tax credits for restoration work.

The Commission thanked Pamela for the information and attending the meeting.

- 2. <u>Update on the City Hall Renovations.</u> Pat Ivory provided a general overview of the remodeling and restoration work that is occurring at City Hall. He noted that the windows would also be replaced which recently received approval from the Wisconsin Historical Society. Pat reviewed photographs of the interior of the building and asked Commission members if they would be interested in touring the building. The Commission expressed an interest, therefore, Pat indicated that he would try to arrange a time for the tour.
- 3. Review of 2018 Commission Work Program and Discussion of 2019 Commission Work Program. Pat Ivory provided an overview of the work and accomplishments of the Commission during 2018. The Commission then discussed the draft 2019 Commission work program. The Commission indicated that possible additions to the work program could be: better advertising the Historic Loan Program with local Realtors, contacting the owners of the Salsbury Rowhouse to discuss their interest in locally designating the building, and whether there was any need for the Commission to include any work activity related to the locomotive #2719. The Commission will consider the adoption of the work program at their February meeting.
- 4. Update on Landmark Activities and Properties:

Jane Seymon Kuinh by PJO

- A. 618 South Farwell Street Street. Pat indicated that he had not heard back from John Mann regarding the review of the historical research for the property. John had indicated that one of his graduate students would be reviewing the accuracy of the research prior to scheduling the public hearing to consider the local landmark designation.
- **B.** Update from HPF. Janice Wnukowski noted that the HPF Board is still having discussions regarding the future of the Foundation and plan to meet with the various neighborhood associations to discuss possible involvement with the Foundation.
- **C. February Meeting.** The Commission discussed the meeting date for the February meeting as Pat indicated that he would not be available on February 4th. The Commission agreed to meet on February 11th.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Submitted by,

Jane Seymour Kunick