

**3/5/12 - Monday, March 5, 2012**

**EAU CLAIRE  
LANDMARKS COMMISSION**

**Meeting of March 5, 2012**

Members Present: Katrinka Bourne, Kathy Mitchell, Carrie Ronnander, Patrick Kurtenbach, Jim Seymour, Karen Nusbaum, Ken Ziehr

Members Absent: None

Minutes. The minutes of the February 6, 2012 meeting were approved as written.

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

**1. Presentation on the Good Life Cultural Plan.**

Susan McLeod, Director of the Chippewa Valley Museum, was present at the meeting to provide an overview of the report recently completed by the Museum called "The Good Life: A Cultural Direction for Eau Claire County." Susan informed the Commission that the report was intended both to assist the cultural sector in strategic planning and to encourage the integration of the County's cultural resources into all aspects of community life. Topics covered in the report include: outdoors, the waterways, economic development, downtown, tourism, education, aesthetics and access. It was noted that the Museum, working with a consultant obtained substantial public input for the report using focus groups, surveys, etc.

Susan noted that one of the findings from the surveys was the need to find a better method of getting information out to the community about activities and events that are scheduled. In addition, the importance and focus of Downtown was a common theme in many of the comments received from the public.

**2. Update on 310 Lake Street.**

Pat Ivory provided an overview of the restoration work occurring at 310 Lake Street, a pivotal property located in the Randall Park Historic Landmark District. The property was damaged by fire and the Commission approved a Certificate of Appropriateness in 2010 to allow for the reconstruction/repair of the 6-plex to match the original design as close as possible.

John Mogensen, owner of the property, was present at the meeting and discussed the work on the structure. Mr. Mogensen indicated that work on the structure was progressing. The roof has been completed; the wood siding has been installed, and installation of the trim around the windows, corners edges, and under the soffits is in progress. Interior work is also progressing. He noted that due to the height of the new trusses between the second and third floors that the second floor wall is approximately eighteen inches taller than the original house. This additional height is above the second floor windows and below the roof overhang at the third floor level. Mr. Mogensen indicated that he was not aware of this change until only recently. The Commission discussed the change and whether anything should be done to attempt to visually reduce the spacing above the second floor windows. The Commission decided that no additional change should be undertaken as the installation of the decorative trim around the windows and dentil detailing below the soffit will reduce the spacing.

Mr. Mogensen and the Commission also discussed work that might be done on the porch related to the railing and front enclosure below the porch floor. The Commission suggested using lattice material, similar to that used for the porch at 1408 State Street. They also suggested that the landscaping treatment used for the State Street house may address issues regarding the height of the railing, if the railing needs to be replaced. The Commission also suggested working with staff on possible repairs of the railing versus complete replacement; this would allow the height to stay unchanged.

The Commission discussed touring the structure and Mr. Mogensen suggested either April or May for the tour. The Commission thanked Mr. Mogensen for his work on reconstructing the building.

**3. Discussion of Preservation Week Activity.**

The Commission continued their discussion regarding possible activities for Preservation Week. Carrie Ronnander discussed the project to be sponsored by the public library related to scanning historic documents or photographs to encourage the public to make digital records of historic documents. Carrie indicated this would be occurring on May 19th, but was not sure if the Landmarks Commission could participate in some fashion. The Commission discussed other possible Preservation Week activities including a walking tour featuring several of the waterway plaques. The Commission noted the date of the activity may not necessarily coincide with the official Preservation Week designation in the month of May. The Commission decided to continue their discussion to their April meeting.

**4. Update on Landmark Activities and Properties.**

A. Update from Eau Claire Historic Preservation Foundation. Pat Kurtenbach provided an update of Foundation activities, which included the home tour in May, annual meeting in April, and membership activities. He noted that the Foundation would be hiring an intern in a few weeks that would assist on projects through the fall. One of the projects would be working with the Landmarks Commission on the update of the Tour Booklet.

B. Update on City Hall Building Analysis/Grant Applications. Pat Ivory noted that he had submitted the grant application to the Eau Claire Community Foundation to assist in funding the building analysis of City Hall building complex. The City's 2012 budget includes \$50,000 to undertake this study to look at such factors as: ADA issues, restrooms, exterior conditions, electrical, roofs,

doors, windows, flooring, wall coverings and office upgrades to meet current technology demands. It would also consider the historic character of the building complex. A grant application will be submitted to the National Trust for Historic Preservation in May and possibly the Eau Claire Historic Preservation Foundation later this spring.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50p.m.

Submitted by,

Patrick Kurtenbach, Secretary