

**EAU CLAIRE
LANDMARKS COMMISSION**

Meeting of December 3, 2013

Members Present: Katrinka Bourne, Dave Strobel, Carrie Ronnander, Patrick Kurtenbach
Karen Nusbaum, Jim Seymour

Members Absent: Ken Ziehr

Staff Present: Pat Ivory

Minutes. The minutes of the November 4, 2013 meeting were approved as written.

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

1. **Consideration of an Application for Certificate of Appropriateness to Install Two Fan Decks at the Carson Park Baseball Stadium.** The Commission reviewed an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness submitted by the City Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department on behalf of the Eau Claire Express Baseball Organization to construct two fan deck platforms at the Carson Park Baseball Stadium. One deck would be constructed in the upper first base side of the stadium and the other in the upper third base side of the stadium. Each would be approximately 25' x 9.5' in size and provide space for approximately 20 persons. The decks would be made of wood and painted teal green to match the color of the existing interior portion of the stadium.

Mr. Bill Rowlett, Managing Director for the Eau Claire Express, spoke in support. Mr. Rowlett stated that the deck would be constructed on top of the last three rows of seating and would not involve any structural change to the existing stadium. The decks could be removed in the future if desired by the City without any structural change or damage to the stadium.

He added that the deck would be set back slightly from the outer edge of the stadium and that only a portion of the outside railing might be visible from the side of the stadium, but would not be visible from the street. He added that other seating changes have been made over the years to better accommodate the spectators.

Phil Fieber, the Director of the Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department, discussed the proposed plans noting that the decks would provide better viewing of the baseball field, particularly down the right and left field foul lines.

The Commission reviewed a letter written by Mr. Joseph Seymour that was submitted to the Commission. Mr. Seymour noted that he was concerned about what he called a piecemeal approach to the construction of the other fan decks for the baseball field. He

noted that he felt that the existing fan decks were not appropriate architecturally for the field or stadium. He concluded by noting that he had not seen any drawings for the proposed fan decks.

Pat Ivory also distributed a copy of an email from Commission member Ken Ziehr who was unable to attend the meeting. Ken discussed his thoughts about the proposed project.

Pat Ivory indicated that the stadium was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Since it was on the National Register, he had contacted the Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS) by mail requesting comments on the project. He indicated that the City had not yet received a response from the WHS, noting that they had a 30-day review and comment period.

The Commission discussed the project noting that the construction of the deck would not result in any structural changes to the interior or exterior of the stadium, would not be visible from the street, could be removed if desired and bench seating reinstalled, and would be painted to match the interior of the stadium. They also discussed design options for the railing.

ACTION TAKEN: Pat Kurtenbach moved to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness with the condition that the Wisconsin Historical Society be contacted to obtain comments on the project. Dave Strobel seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

2. Update on Landmark Activities and Properties.

- A. Update on 6 South Barstow Street.** Pat Ivory informed the Commission that the owner of 6 South Barstow Street had submitted an appeal of the landmark designation of their property to the City Council. The Council will hold a public hearing on December 9th.
- B. Report from Historic Preservation Foundation.** Pat Kurtenbach updated the Commission on HPF activities including: the house hunt project, and the upcoming membership drive. Pat also discussed changes occurring with the State and Federal rehabilitation tax credits. Commission members noted that a presentation from the WHS regarding the tax credits could be a possible Preservation Month activity.
- C. Distribution of “Rules of Conduct” Information.** It was noted the “Rules of Conduct” information from the City Manager’s Office was included in the Commissioner’s agenda packet.
- D. Commission Membership.** The Commission discussed the status of the terms of each of the Commission members. It was noted that Pat Kurtenbach and Ken Ziehr were recently reappointed to a second 3-year term. Karen Nusbaum’s position of Realtor will

be open as of January 1st. The Commission thanked Karen for her service on the Commission as this would be her last meeting.

- E. Storm Window Changes for 210 Roosevelt Avenue.** The Commission discussed an inquiry about replacing storm windows at 210 Roosevelt Avenue. The owner of the home was requesting input from the Commission. Pat Kurtenbach indicated that he would respond back to the homeowner with the Commission's input.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Submitted by,

Patrick Kurtenbach, Secretary