

**EAU CLAIRE
LANDMARKS COMMISSION**

Meeting of August 4, 2014

Members Present: Katrinka Bourne, Ken Ziehr, Jane Seymour Kunick, Carrie Ronnander, Brady Foust

Members Absent: Patrick Kurtenbach, Dave Strobel

Minutes. The minutes of the July 1, 2014, meeting were approved as written.

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

New Commissioner. Brady Foust was welcomed to the Commission. Brady replaces Jim Seymour whose term expires at the end of 2014.

- 1. Public Hearing and Consideration of 322 Water Street as a Local Landmark Property.** The Commission reviewed the local landmark nomination prepared for 322 Water Street. The property has the historical name of Hutchinson's Saddlery and is now known as The Joynt. The property is owned by Mr. William Nolte. The building was constructed in 1869 and Hutchinson's Saddlery operated out of the building until 1923. The building was utilized by several businesses until 1973 when it was converted into a tavern. The first floor remains a tavern with one dwelling on the second floor.

The building is of brick construction and provides a good example of commercial architecture's two-part block, with a commercial lower floor with recessed entrance and large windows, and an upper floor reserved for residential space. Architecturally, it is considered Italianate, with a brick veneer containing corbelled brick in both running bond and soldier course patterns at the cornice line and three segmental arched bays with limestone keystone and support brackets on the second floor. The limestone is repeated on the second floor window sills. Although the building has experienced some exterior changes, its typical main street architecture has been retained and embodies the significant characteristics of mid-19th century Main Street architecture.

Historically, the building is important as it is one of the oldest buildings along Water Street, with the Pioneer Block in the 400 block the only other locally designated building along Water Street. In addition, the building played host to a number of nationally known musicians between 1974 and 1990, including such artists as Ernie Watts, John Lee Hooker, Mary Travers, Albert Collins, and Dizzy Gillespie.

Mr. William Nolte, owner of the building, spoke in favor of the designation.

ACTION TAKEN: Carrie Ronnander moved that the Commission designate 322 Water Street as a local landmark property as provided in Chapter 2.65 of the City code noting the building's

significance reflects the broad cultural and social history of the community, is identified with historic personages related to national, state, and local music, and that the building embodies distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type, inherently valuable in the community. Brady Foust seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

2. Update on Landmark Activities and Properties, including:

A. Discussion of Status of Future Local Landmark Designations including 316 Eau Claire Street (State Theatre). The Commission discussed the status of the properties recently contacted to determine the property owner's interest in locally designating their properties. Properties being considered include: 302-310 West Grand Avenue, 1129 Bellevue Street, 319 South Barstow Street, 1819 Lyndale Avenue, 1615 State Street, and 316 Eau Claire Street.

Ken Ziehr stated that the owners of 319 South Barstow Street indicated that they are interested in proceeding with the designation process, while the owners of 302-310 West Grand Avenue are still considering the request. Pat Ivory stated that he was unable to contact the property owners of 1129 Bellevue Street, 1615 State Street, and 1819 Lyndale Avenue. He noted that he would be contacting the owners of 316 Eau Claire Street to attempt to arrange a meeting with representatives of the State Theatre.

ACTION TAKEN: Ken Ziehr moved to initiate the process of locally designating 319 South Barstow Street, once the owners have submitted a letter indicating their approval of the Commission initiating the designation process. Carrie Ronnander seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

B. Review of Report on Third Ward Landmark District. The Commission continued their discussion regarding the report prepared by the Commission regarding the status of the opted-out properties from the Third Ward Historic Landmark District. The report had been forwarded to the City Manager's office in 2011, but never forwarded to the City Council. At the July meeting of the Commission, the Commission questioned whether the update of the Comprehensive Plan should be completed to provide further direction regarding the opted-out properties prior to taking the report to the City Council. The Commission asked staff to contact the City Manager to inquire about his recommendation regarding the timing of forwarding the report to the City Council. Pat informed the Commission that he had met with the City Manager and the Director of the Department of Community Development and both concurred that the issue could be discussed as part of the update of the Historic Preservation Chapter of the Comprehensive Plan. The issue would then be addressed by the community based on the recommendation from the updated Comprehensive Plan. Pat noted that the Comprehensive Plan discussions should include the status of all opted-out properties, not just those within the Third Ward Landmark District.

C. Update on Historic Preservation Foundation Activities. There was no update from the Historic Preservation Foundation.

D. Next Meeting. The next meeting of the Commission will be on Monday, September 8th due to the Labor Day holiday.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Submitted by,

Patrick Kurtenbach, Secretary