

**EAU CLAIRE
LANDMARKS COMMISSION**

Meeting of November 3, 2014

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

Members Absent: Dave Strobel (Also - one vacancy on the Commission)

Minutes. The minutes of the October 6, 2014, meeting were approved as written.

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

1. **Appointment of Commission Secretary.** The Commission noted that Pat Kurtenbach had been the secretary for the Commission.

ACTION TAKEN: Ken Ziehr moved to appoint Jan Seymour Kunick as secretary of the Commission. Brady Foust seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

2. **Update on HistoryPin Project.** John Vanek, editor from the Chippewa Valley Museum, was present at the meeting to discuss the status of his work to add properties listed in the Landmarks tour booklet onto the HistoryPin website. The website is an interactive site that can provide links to photos of buildings and includes narrative information about the history or architecture of the buildings. The museum is working with Visit Eau Claire and other organizations and has received a grant to undertake various historical and culture projects in the community. The HistoryPin project is one of several projects to be undertaken with the grant funds.

John informed the Commission that Google is no longer supporting the applications for HistoryPin; therefore, the museum and Visit Eau Claire are investigating other software programs or platforms for the project. They plan to take the four original Timber Trails auto cassette tours and convert them to this new platform for mobile devices and then work on developing the site for the tour booklet. John felt that he would start work on the tour booklet portion of the project in early 2015. A link to the information would be available on the Visit Eau Claire website, as well as any other website desired by the Commission.

3. **Consideration of Sending Letter of Support for Historic Tax Credit Program.** The Commission discussed sending a letter to the Wisconsin congressional delegates regarding the continuance of the Historic Tax Credit program for the restoration and upkeep of historic buildings.

ACTION TAKEN: Brady Foust moved to have Katrinka Bourne send a letter to the Wisconsin congressional delegation in support of the program. Ken Ziehr seconded the motion. All votes were in favor. Motion carried.

4. **Review of Analysis of Conditions Report for Comprehensive Plan.** The Commission reviewed the Analysis of Conditions report for the update of the City's Comprehensive Plan. Ken Ziehr, the

Commission's representative on the citizens committee, asked Commission members to forward any comments to him and he in turn would review those comments with the committee.

5. Update on Landmark Activities and Properties, including:

A. Discussion of Status of Future Local Landmark Designations. 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 Avenue, 319 South Barstow Street, 1819 Lyndale Avenue, 1615 State Street, and 316 Eau Claire Street.

The Commission is still waiting to receive a letter requesting designation from the owners of 319 South Barstow Street, 302-310 West Grand, and 1615 State Street to proceed with the public hearings. The property owners of 1129 Bellevue Avenue and 1819 Lyndale Avenue had not been contacted since the previous meeting.

The Commission noted that Ken Ziehr and Carrie Ronnander had met with the Board of Directors of the State Theatre since the previous meeting. The Commission discussed the meeting and the Board's decision not to support landmark designation. The Commission decided to discuss this further when all the Commission members were present.

The Commission also discussed other properties/districts that should be considered for local designation including: Water Street, Roosevelt Avenue, and Emery Street.

B. Discussion of Historic Residential Loan Program. The Commission discussed the standards and guidelines for the Historic Residential Loan program. Pat Ivory noted that he had discussed the possibility of expanding the program to commercial and non-profit landmark buildings with the CDBG Administrator and was told that such a change could be considered. The administrator (Keith Johnathan) stated that the Commission would need to revise their guidelines and would be applicable for future rather than present funding. The Commission asked Pat to include this discussion on the December meeting agenda.

C. Commission vacancy. Pat Ivory indicated that the City Council would be acting on the current Commission vacancy at their November 11th meeting.

D. December Meeting. The Commission discussed the meeting date for December and decided to schedule the meeting for December 8th.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Submitted by,

Jane Seymour Kunick