

Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes

July 8, 2025 - 7:00 p.m. at Lake Geneva City Hall

President Ken Etten called the meeting to order at 7:00 p. m. Lake Geneva City Hall

Present: Ken Etten, Louise Rayppy, Chris Brookes, Grace Hanny, Emily Hummel, and Ja Nelle Powers.
Absent: John Halverson, Sonja Akright. Guest: Charlene Klein, former Mayor.

Approval of minutes: Review and approval of the minutes from the June 10,2025, Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission Meeting.

Comments from the public and correspondence. Charlene had questions about historic preservation through-out the city and also on her block at 833 Wisconsin Street, which the new house there is not historical at all. It replaced a much older home.

Reports on the Geneva Lake Museum upcoming events, including "Tuesdays @ Two" programs and the Maple Park Homeowners' Association and updates on the regulation of short-term rentals in the Maple Park Historic Districts. "Tuesdays @ Two" -- 100 Years of Big Foot Country Club, August 20 @ 6:00 p.m. Fund raiser: Dinner & Bingo at Hawk's View Golf Club, September 25, 2025. Military Room fund raiser was a success. Maple Park: 2025 Newsletter, social events for the season. City hired an Enforcement company to manage short-term rentals.

Updates regarding Black Point Estate & Gardens, Horticultural Hall, and Historic Lake Geneva Walking Tours, including Black Point programs at the Lake Geneva Public Library and Badger High School and potential special event on July 13 at the Black Point Estate to commemorate Conrad Seipp's 200th birthday and the 20th Anniversary of the dedication as a State Historic Site. 20th Anniversary Volunteer Party --- Friday, July 11, from 5 - 7:30 P.M. Donor Event -- July 13, from 3:30 -- 8 P.M.

Updates on events at The Riviera, at the 1928 Geneva Theater / Geneva Stage, or local news items relating to the Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission. Geneva Stage is closed for July, August, will reopen in September with the Odd Couple.

Review of the current 2025 Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission City Budget and recent bills, invoices, and payments. Our current balance is \$15,079.59.

Discussion and comments regarding recent building / remodeling projects within National & State Historic Districts, including repair / replacement of windows at Oak Hill Cemetery office, the remodeling of the Edie Boutique, and the Eduard Babayev's New House at 833 Wisconsin Street. New windows and roof at Cemetery office building that used to be a chapel. City will pay for it. Tom Earle will do it according to

Historic Preservation. Mary Sturgis donated the land in 1877, did not build until the 1920's. Edie Boutique has been approved both by the city and us. New house at 833 Wisconsin still working on it.

Update regarding the Hillmoor Archaeological Site Survey and the Hillmoor Commission and the status of the grant for the proposed new Intensive Historic Survey of Lake Geneva. Have Hillmoor news letter on website, so people can see what's going on there and also can make comments. Historical Survey, application survey should provide stronger protection for Historic Maple Park, especially the Baker House. Consult Jason about this, also the grant for the survey.

Update regarding the City of Lake Geneva Chapter 34-- Historic Preservation Ordinance, creation of a new Local Historic Landmark Application Form, the status of nomination application for buildings such as the Lake Geneva Public Library and The Riviera as Local Historic Landmarks. Made motion to send to Jason compact paper work of the Ordinance. Motion was approved.

Ongoing discussion regarding the repair and /or replacement of any of the existing historic plaques and signs, the proposed new Haskins / Crawford historical sign, the Lake Geneva Sanitariums sign, a potential Old Mill Pond historic sign in conjunction with the Lake Geneva Beautification Committee, and status of changes to the Sign Ordinance. Waiting to hear if the City Council on July 14th will approve a change to the Zoning Ordinance to allow for Historic Signs up to 18 square feet.

Update regarding the status of the Three Graces statue and the 3-D scan of Three Graces statue in Allerton Park in Monticello, Illinois, the latest City funding information and the future plans and options for repair and/or replacement of the Three Graces statue. The 3-D scan will cost \$2,500. The statue is located at City Hall right now. The Kishwaukee Questers group would like to commemorate the statue with a plaque.

Status of recent Historic Plaque Program applications, including plaque at 1205 Dodge Street by Rose Fritz, the cost of plaques from Timberline Signs at \$300.68 each (including sales tax) application forms, and on-going updating the list of past plaque recipients. The house at 1205 Dodge Street received a plaque -1887. We will put together a list of signs at our convenience.

Discussion regarding new projects for the LGHPC, updates regarding the status of our website www.historyoflakegeneva.org. who to contact at City Hall regarding reactivation and website revisions, and discussion with Jeff Miskie. Also review of potential options for printing new copies of our Historic Walking Tour booklets. Talked to Lacey about having a website E-Mail. Jeff Miskie has copies of all our files. We were given the name Adams, someone at City Hall that could help us.

Update on the status of the I-phone app and Android app for A Historic Lake Geneva Walking Tour, including who to contact regarding reactivation of I-phone and Android apps, and discussion on how to better promote the apps. No new information.

Discussion regarding any new correspondence from Stephanie Klett and Deanna Goodwin at Visit Lake Geneva / Lake Geneva Chamber of Commerce on how the LGHPC can help promote tourism in Lake Geneva and better publicize our role in the community. No new information.

Update on any new information from Jason Tish at the Wisconsin Historical Society, National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Society of Architectural Historians, and the Wisconsin Association of Historic Preservation Commissions. No new information.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted, Louise M. Rayppy