

Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes

May 13, 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, Sonja Akright, Emily Hummel.
Absent: John Halverson, Guest: Peg Esposito. Ja Nelle Powers, Our new City Council Representative.

Approval of minutes: Review and approval of the minutes from the April 8, 2025, Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission Meeting.

Comments from the public and correspondence. None

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 District. "Tuesdays @ Two" -- Frank Lloyd Wright and The Geneva Hotel. Summer Evening Program -- June 10th @ 6:00 p.m. Pizza Palooza! Fundraiser for Geneva Lake Museum, Tuesday, June 17, 2025. Next Door Pub Lakeside (Lake Como). Military Room -- Funding goal \$50,000 -- 50 percent of goal has been received in donations. Maple Park Board busy planning summer events.

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 events this year at the Black Point Estate to commemorate Conrad Seipp's 200th birthday and the 20th Anniversary of the dedication as a State Historic Site. Remarkable Women at Geneva Lake, the event was a huge success. Summer Series for June: Beer Barons of Lake Geneva -- June 14th, An Evening with Agatha Christie -- June 21. Nooks and Crannies Tour -- June 5.

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: Alice in Wonderland -- May 15 at 7:00 P.M.

Review of recent bills and invoices, updates on the remaining balance in the Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission 2024 City Budget and our current 2025 LGHPC City Budget. The current balance is \$16,644.65. We received our money back from Archaeology services, and Historical Grant-- 1st payment, City Council approved rolling over the \$8,200.00 remaining from our 2024 budget into our 2025 budget.

Discussion and comments regarding recent building / remodeling projects within National & State Historic Districts, including report by Chris Brookes on the Wisconsin Association of Historic Preservation Commissions (WAHPC) convention, and updates on status of the remodeling of the Edie Boutique and the Eduard Babayev's New House at 833 Wisconsin Street. We renewed our membership in the WAHPC. Chris attended the convention, which was attended by 25 people. She had following comments: new ordinance - house has to blend with neighbor's. Why do we want to landmark - for protection. Can install solar panels on historic houses, because government said you can - but it has to blend in. 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. Ken went on a walk around Hillmoor. Need website, so people can make comments about Hillmoor.

Discussion regarding the City of Lake Geneva Chapter 34 - Historic Preservation Ordinance, creation of a new Local Historic Landmark Application Form, and the status of nomination applications for buildings such as the Lake Geneva Public Library and The Riviera as Local Historic Landmarks. Final copy of ordinance, thanks to Ken and Dan Draper. Four pages of application -- pamphlet almost done.

Discussion regarding potential memorial to honor past LGHPC member Patrick Quinn. He was very interested in the restoration of the Three Graces statue, we can have his name included in the restoration or something involving the Library.

Discussion regarding the repair and/or replacement of any of the existing historic plaques and signs by Jim Sherin at Timberline Signs, the proposed new Haskins / Crawford historical sign, the Lake Geneva Sanitariums sign, and a potential Old Mill Pond historic sign in conjunction with the L. G. Beautification Committee. Layout of Sanitariums sign will be ready next month, will cost \$2,300.

Update regarding the status of the Three Graces statue, the latest City funding information, and the future plans for repair and/or replacement of the Three Graces statue based upon the existing Three Sisters statue in Allerton Park in Monticello, Illinois. Motion approved to pay \$2,500 for the 3-D scan.

Review of recent Historic Plaque Program applications and the cost of plaques from Timberline Signs at \$258.48 each (including sales tax), application forms, and ongoing updating the list of past plaque recipients. No new information.

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. Website - posting website - Jeff Miskie, who is posting website, then he can help. Walking Tour booklets -- if the digital file is found, Then Graphics can print 500 booklets for \$2250, 1000 booklets for \$2650.

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. John Noyes having a tour -- Society of Architectural Historians.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Louise M. Rayppy