

Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2022 7:00 p.m. at Lake Geneva City Hall

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

Present: Ken Etten, Louise Rayppy, Chris Brookes and Tim Dunn. Patrick Quinn, Grace Hanny, Sonja Akright, Emily Hummel were absent. Guest: Mary Jo Fesenmaier, Alderperson.

Review and approval of the minutes from March 8, 2022, Historic Preservation Commission Meeting.

Comments from the public and correspondence. None

Reports from the Geneva Area Museum and Maple Park Homeowners. Tuesdays @ Two: May 3rd -- "Tales of Lake Geneva", presented by Patrick Quinn and the Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission.

Update regarding news on Black Point Estate & Gardens, Horticultural Hall, and Historic Lake Geneva Walking Tours. Black Point will be opening for the season on May 7th. May 8th will be about the Remarkable Women of Lake Geneva to celebrate Mother's Day. The Maple Park Walking Tour will concentrate on Pioneer Cemetery this year and Black Point Walking Tour will be at Oak Hill Cemetery.

Update on events at The Riviera and at the 1928 Geneva Theater or local news items relating to the Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission. The new plaque has been installed on the front of The Riviera. The Theater is going through renovations. Chris informed us that the renovations at the library are over and the Grand Opening is April 25th.

Review of recent bills and invoices, updated current balance in the Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission 2022 City Budget. Our current balance is \$8,425.00. We received \$40.00 in donations for our Walking Tour booklets, from museum.

Discuss on potential ways to honor Jim Davis and Jackie Getzen's contributions to the LGHPC, including planting an oak tree at Oak Hill Cemetery in memory of Jim Davis and making a donation to the Lake Geneva Public Library in honor of Jackie Getzen. Mary Jo Fesenmaier informed us that the cemetery board has been resurrected. Will discuss with cemetery board about the oak tree for Jim. Chris informed us that the library still have pavers left, if we want to purchase one for Jackie.

Discussion regarding Historic Preservation Design Review rules for building projects within National & State Historic Districts and current building projects including the New House on the site of the Douglas House at 322 Madison Street, remodeled Houses at 930 & 932 Geneva Street, 1011 Main Street, and porch remodeling work at 534 Madison Street & 1127 Wisconsin Street. No new information.

Update regarding submittal of Certified Local Government renewal application, the creation of a Local Historic Landmark Ordinance based upon presentation by Pat Blackmer & Dan Richardson on the Whitewater Landmarks Commission, discussions with City Attorney Dan Draper, and follow up on Zoom meeting with Jason Tish on December 9. Chris is all ready to go concerning the creation of a Local Historic Landmark Ordinance when Grace returns. She looked up the ordinance that Fond du Lac has. The ordinance that we have now, just belongs to Lake Geneva. Jason Tish reminded us of the NTHP Forum.

Update regarding suggestions from Mayor Charlene Klein regarding Historic Lake Geneva Post Office Building and creation of a brochure promoting the history of The Riviera. We discussed how the text of the history of the mural at the Post Office is displayed. It is hardly noticeable. It should be larger, and it should look like an official document.

Discussion regarding placement and installation of a New Historic Sign for Oak Hill Cemetery to commemorate its designation as a National & State Registers of Historic Place. Patrick talked to Tom Earle and he informed Patrick that the sign will be put in the ground in April after the ground thaws out. It will be placed below the Civil War sign.

Discussion regarding the status of the repair and/or replacement of six existing historic plaques and signs by Jim Sherin at Timberline Signs and which signs should be repaired next. Tom Earle will put up the new signs sometime in the future.

Review of recent Historic Plaque Program applications, including, the cost of plaques from Timberline Signs at \$226.83 each (including sales tax), application forms, and ongoing updating the list of past plaque recipients. No new information.

Report on any updates to the I-phone app and Android app of A Historic Lake Geneva Walking Tour, including reactivation of I-phone app, and discussion on how to better promote the apps, including presentations to the Lake Geneva City Council. Our I-phone app is up and running again. Lana Kropf paid online with the City's credit card on Apple to renew. So hopefully this will solve the problem.

Discussion regarding new projects for the LGHPC, including future "Tales of Lake Geneva" programs, updates to our website www.historyoflakegeneva.org, and discussion on any other potential future LGHPC projects that we might want to consider. "Tales of Lake Geneva" will take place at the museum on May 3rd.

Update regarding the Lake Geneva Historic Railroad Site, including information from the Park Board regarding the future bench in memory of Ed Yaeger. Mary Jo Fesenmaier attended our meeting in regards to the bench. She is working to schedule this on the April 19th Park Board meeting, also it should come up at the next City Council meeting.

Update regarding any new correspondence from Stephanie Klett at Visit Lake Geneva / Lake Geneva Chamber of Commerce and Lake Geneva City Administrator David Nord on how the LGHPC can help promote tourism in Lake Geneva. No new information.

Update on 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. Jason Tish informed us of the 2022 WAHPC Free Virtual Conference – April 27.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Louise M. Rayppy