

Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes

May 10, 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, Patrick Quinn, Louise Rayppy, Chris Brookes, Grace Hanny, Sonja Akright, Emily Hummel and Tim Dunn.

Review and approval of the minutes from April 12, 2022, Historic Preservation Commission Meeting.

Comments from the public and correspondence. None

Reports from the Geneva Area Museum and Maple Park Homeowners. Tuesdays @ Two will be in the evenings, then in the Fall it will resume at Two in the afternoon on Tuesdays. "Tales of Lake Geneva" has been postponed. Emily informed us that the Maple Park Summer Party will be on June 12th from 2:30 – 5:30 P.M. at Topsy Turvy.

Update regarding news on Black Point Estate & Gardens, Horticultural Hall, and Historic Lake Geneva Walking Tours. Black Point is open for tours on weekends.

Update on events at The Riviera and at the 1928 Geneva Theater or local news items relating to the Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission, including reappointment of Patrick Quinn and Louise Rayppy to LGHPC for another 3 year term. Patrick and I are happy to be reappointed.

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 are financially in good shape.

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. Since Patrick is on the cemetery board he will talk to Tom Earl about a tree. Also talk to John Foster, Arborist. If the tree or cemetery sign is not handled, then we should look to hire a private company to install both. Took a vote – Motion carried. Motion approved to buy a paver for \$250.00, to be installed at the library to honor Jackie's contributions to LGHPC. Chris called Jackie to get her approval to use the name Jackie instead of Jacqueline. Jackie did not remember how long she's been on commission. Ken looked thru his stacks of papers, and found out she was there at the beginning in 1996.

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. The house at 930 Geneva Street, has been changed. It is no longer a lovely 1883 Stick style house. It has been changed to a white clad barn like exterior, which is popular now.

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 gave each of us a copy of the historic preservation ordinance of Fond du Lac, for us to read and discuss at our next meeting. Also discuss about Green Bay's local landmark ordinance. Karen Hall, CPA received a letter from the Walworth County Historical Society

pertaining to some old tax records, belonging to Lake Geneva and where to send them. Patrick informed us that they should be donated to the University of Wisconsin, Whitewater, Research Center, Anderson Library. Emily will notify Historical Society where to send them.

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. Patrick will have A-1 Graphic & Printing print a larger text of the history of the mural, as of now it is hardly noticeable. And ask Post Office staff not to block it. Sonja created a very nice brochure for The Riviera.

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. It will be placed below the Civil War sign. The exact location will be discussed later.

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. The new signs will be put up 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. Bjorn Schweinberg contacted Ken about the house he just purchased at 831 Dodge Street. Had questions about the house. Ken sent him an application for a plaque. Plans to convert the home into a B & B.

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. Also questions regarding required update renewal of I-phone app within 30 days of 4-22-22. We were notified by Apple that if our app is not updated within 30 days it will be removed from sale. We also were notified that we need an app administrator to check on this account every year. Sonja volunteer to do so. City needs to notify Apple of this.

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. No new information.

Update regarding the Lake Geneva Historic Railroad Site, including information from the Park Board regarding the future bench in memory of Ed Yaeger. Park Board is working on this. If we do not hear anything by the end of May, notify Mary Jo.

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, including discussion on 2022 WAHPC Virtual Spring Conference Program via Zoom on Friday, April 29, 2022. Ken attended the 2022 WAHPC Spring Conference Program via Zoom on 4/29/22.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Louise M. Rayppy