

12/06/22 Park Board Minutes

Meeting to discuss Three Graces Statue

In attendance:

Chair Cindy Feuredi, Dave Quickel, Peg Esposito, Alderperson Cindy Yager, Mayor Charlene Klein

Absent: Barbara Phillips and Peggy Schneider

Guests: Grace Eklund, Grace Hanny, Chris Brooks, Sonja Akright, Ken Etten, Jim Connors, Tom Earle, Neil Waswo

Meeting called to order 6:00 by Chair Feuredi

Comments from the public:

Tom Earle, Director of Public Works

Tom spoke of the recent history of the statue, its updates, reconstructions, and current state

- The heads were replaced in the 80s; work done by Whitewater students
- * Replacement heads not matching the original statue
- * An arm was broken in the 80s also, and replaced with concrete attached by metal pin
- * The rusting of metal pins added to the deterioration of the statue

Tom also talked about the construction of the statue.

- The statue is of 3 pieces: base, pillar and statue
- The water fountain was not well constructed from the start, about 23 years ago
- The pump that services it is small and not working all three segments well
- The spouts have been broken by misuse and age

He was asking for a temporary house for the main statue

- The Lake Geneva Museum has offered to store and protect the main statue until the future has been determined
- If the museum can't take it, there is room within the Public Works Department, but then it would be out of view

There were questions about insurance covering the damage, but the statue is "property in the open, which isn't covered"

Chris Brooks, member of Historic Preservation Committee

Chris spoke about the importance of the statue to the city, its provenance in our history, and the equal importance of the base with the names of the honorees. She was asking us to commit to the restoration of the statue and its repositioning at the lakefront.

Jim Connors, Lake Geneva Beautification Committee

Jim presented a report on history and possible remedies to restoration. His report is attached. The request of the Jim and the Committee is to restore the statue, and working with others, decide the final location and reconstruction.

Motion made:

After short discussion among the Park Board members of the future of the statue, Chair Cindy Feuredi made a motion to move the statue to the museum. Motion seconded by David Quicken.

Before a vote was completed, Alderperson Cindy Yager added an amendment to the motion. The amendment was to add the statement that we move the stature with the understanding that the Park Board will move quickly to look into and move on replacing the statue to its lakefront location.

Amendment was seconded by Peg Esposito.

The vote on the motion with its amendment was unanimously approved.

Discussion after the vote was to work with the Historic Preservation and Beautification Committees to make this happen, hopefully by the 100th anniversary of the statue, in 2025.

Motion to adjourn

Made by Cindy Feuredi, seconded by Alderperson Cindy Yager.
Motion approved with unanimous consent.

Meeting ended at 6:37pm

Minutes prepared by Peg Esposito