

Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes

September 13, 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 August 9, 2022, Historic Preservation Commission Meeting.

Comments from the public and correspondence. None

Reports on the Geneva Lake Area Museum upcoming events including Tuesdays @ Two programs, and news from the Maple Park Homeowners' Association, including July 22, 2022, meeting regarding the number of Airbnb residences in the Maple Park Historic District. Tuesday @ Two : Nathaniel Kellogg Fairbank & Butternuts, presented by Helen Brandt on October 4th. Sonja informed us about a sign for the old sanitarium, which would be placed behind the museum, so people can see it. Maple Park had a meeting on July 22nd at the United Methodist Church about Short Term Rentals. They are having a meeting September 25th to prepare for the October 3rd City Meeting.

Updates regarding news on Black Point Estate & Gardens, Horticultural Hall, and Historic Lake Geneva Walking Tours. Oak Hill Cemetery Tours: Saturday, October 8th, and 15th, at 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Update on events at The Riviera, at the 1928 Geneva Theatre, or local news items relating to the Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission. Live theatre are in the works at the theatre.

Review of recent bills and invoices, updated current balance in the Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission 2022 City Budget, and discussion regarding proposed 2023 Budget. Our current balance is \$7,928.92. Will have the two 700 block Main Street signs replaced.

Updates on tributes 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 donating to the Lake Geneva Public Library for a paver in honor of Jackie Getzen. The cemetery has decided on a Burr Oak, which will be placed by the office building and will be paid for by the city. We have decided on a plaque to be placed near the tree in memory of Jim. it will read: In memory of our dear friend and local historian Jim Davis – Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission.

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 work is progressing on the porch at 534 Madison Street.

Update regarding submittal of Certified Local Government renewal applications, the creation of a more inclusive Local Historic Landmark Ordinance based upon the Whitewater Local Landmark Ordinance, the Fond du Lac Historic Preservation Ordinance, discussions with City Attorney Dan Draper, and additional information from Jason Tish at Wisconsin Historical Society. Jason went over everything with Ken. Chris and Grace will talk to Dan Draper. Guide lines for people's property, page 17. Careful about donations, motion approved to have no donations, page 6-10. Looking to get approval of the whole ordinance by end of year. Jason is willing to come and help us.

Update regarding suggestions from Mayor Charlene Klein relating to Lake Geneva Post Office Building, new signage by Patrick Quinn on the historic Post Office mural, and creation of a brochure by Sonja Akright promoting the history of The Riviera. Sonja put together a larger sign for the mural at the Post Office. Will get final approval for The Riviera booklet from the Mayor. Sonja will ask Mayor where the brochure will be and how many should be printed.

Update 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. Also discussion regarding proposed new Historic Oak Hill Cemetery Plaque to be located on stone piers at entry gates. Our new historic sign will be attached to the Civil War sign. Made a motion to contact Tom Earle and Clint about having Jim Sherin attach sign. Motion passed. It will cost \$300. Also will talk to Tom Earle and Clint about the plaque to be located on stone piers. Chris did get permission from the descendants of the Sturges family to do so.

Update regarding the status of the replacement of six existing historic plaques and signs by Jim Sherin at Timberline Signs and which signs should be repaired next. Discussion about the Donian Park sign. Will ask Jim Sherin how much it would cost to replace, also ask him about other plaque, if he can clean them. And ask Jim about Broad St. sign next to Simple restaurant.

Discussion regarding status of the Three Graces statue in Flat Iron Park, needed repairs, and potential relocation to the Geneva Lake Museum, and e-mail Ken Etten sent to the Mayor, City Administrator, and City Council members. The Geneva Lake Museum does not have room for it. We should try to contribute some money to have it restored as our mission is historic. Also think about landmark status. Ken did not receive a reply to the e-mail that he sent to the Mayor, City Administrator, and City Council members.

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.

Update on 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 report from Sonja Akright regarding required update renewal of I-phone app. Need a file about I-phone app, Sonja would need to find. Jeff Miskie and Lana Kropf are the administrators of the account.

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. Website needs to be updated. Sonja will administer the website.

Update regarding the Lake Geneva Historic Railroad Site, including information from the Park Board regarding the future bench in memory of Ed Yaeger. Grace called Cindy about the bench. Cindy said that they refinished a bench for Ed. Will put bench by the tree in the park, and proceed with a plaque. Cindy brought up about all the city parks should have a sign so people would know where they are. Report 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, and 2022 Local History & Historic Preservation Conference on October 12 – 14, 2022. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Louise M. Rayppy