

Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes

July 11, 2023 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, Patrick Quinn, Louise Rayppy, Chris Brookes, Grace Hanny, Sonja Akright, Emily Hummel. Tim Dunn was absent. Guests: Paula Porubcan, Peg Esposito (Hillmoor Committee). Also Garth and Peggy Schneider.

Review and approval of the minutes from June 13, 2023, Historic Preservation Commission Meeting.

Comments from the public and correspondence. None

Reports on the Geneva Lake Museum upcoming events, including "Tuesdays @ Two" programs, follow up on "Taco Tuesday" fundraiser at Champs Sports Bar & Grille, and news from the Maple Park Homeowners' Association, including updates on the regulation of short-term rentals and parking in the Maple Park Historic District. "Tuesdays @ Two" program will be The History of the Lake Geneva Public Library, on September 5th. Even though they had no tacos at "Taco Tuesday", the fundraiser was a success. The Maple Park Homeowners' Association Block Party at Topsy Turvy had a low turnout due to rainy weather. They had one violation, which was their first citation, concerning short-term rentals. No paid parking for the time being.

Updates regarding Black Point Estate & Gardens, Horticultural Hall, and Historic Lake Geneva Walking Tours, including Black Point programs at the Lake Geneva Public Library. Programs about Historic Weddings on Geneva Lake at Black Point on August 26, 6:00 – 8:00 P.M. Local History series at the Library twice a month. Friends of Hillmoor will meet at Badger H.S. on 8/17 at 7:00 P.M. Also DISC GO Party on 7/25 at 3—7 P.M. at Sage Street entrance / Near Eastview School.

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. The screening of Ja Nelle Powers' daughters' short film "Something New" received good reviews. Thursday the 13th—Open House downtown, free parking between 10—11.

Review of recent bills and invoices and updates on the current balance in the Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission 2023 City Budget. Our current balance is \$4,885.00.

Updates on tributes to honor Jim Davis and Jackie Getzen's contributions to the LGHPC, including the LGPL paver for Jackie and scheduling the dedication of the oak tree and plaque at Oak Hill Cemetery in memory of Jim Davis. Sonja heard back from Jim Davis' sister, not able to attend the dedication, but asked to send video.

Janet at the Museum interested in the dedication for Jim, will do something. The paver for Jackie at the Library has been installed.

Discussion and comments regarding recent building / remodeling projects within National & State Historic Districts. New Owner restoring house at corner of Madison and Geneva Streets.

Update regarding submittal of Certified Local Government renewal application by February 28, 2023, and update on the proposed new City of Lake Geneva Local Historic Landmark Ordinance including latest discussions with City Attorney Dan Draper and Jason Tish at Wisconsin Historical Society and scheduling of Special Meeting with Jason Tish on Thursday, July 20, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. at City Hall to discuss proposed changes in more detail. Chris will check with City Hall about setting up Zoom for Special Meeting with Jason Tish at City Hall.

Discussion regarding the repair and/or replacement of existing historic plaques and signs by Jim Sherin at Timberline Signs and review of list on which additional plaques and signs should be repaired and/or replaced next. There are six Maple Park signs that are in bad shape. The estimate from Jim Sherin is 6 @ \$265.00.

Update regarding current status of the Three Graces statue, the relocation from Flat Iron Park to the Geneva Lake Museum, and the future plans for repair and/or replacement of the Three Graces statue. Will call Tom Earle and ask if he is taking a role in it. Museum is planning on moving the statue from where it is now, to the north gallery. Also need to set up ad hoc committee, and also find a sponsor.

Review of recent Historic Plaque Program applications, 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.

Updates on the status of 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, any new information regarding required update renewal of I-phone app. Probably need to create a new app.

Discussion regarding new projects for the LGHPC, updates to our website www.historyoflakegeneva.org, and discussion on any other potential future LGHPC projects that we might want to consider. Need to talk to whoever replaced Jeff Miskie about our website. Sonja working on ideas for our next "Tales of Lake Geneva".

Update regarding the Lake Geneva Historic Railroad Site, including the new park bench and plaque in memory of Ed Yaeger and clean-up and repairs to the paver "footprints" of the Railroad Turntable, Engine House, and Water Tower. The area needs to be cleaned up, also some of the pavers need repairing and some are missing. Maybe we could put signs where the various structures once stood.

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. NAPC Virtual Summer Short Course – August 23-24, 2023. Sign up now. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Louise M. Rayppy