

Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes

August 13, 2024 - 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, Sonja Akright and Peg Esposito.

Absent: Grace Hanny, Emily Hummel.

Approval of minutes: Review and approval of the minutes from the July 9, 2024, Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission Meeting, and discussion regarding election of LGHPC officers for the upcoming year as required by the City. Motion approved for Ken Etten, as Chairman and Louise Rayppy as Secretary.

Comments from the public and correspondence. None.

Reports on the Geneva Lake Museum upcoming events, including "Tuesdays @ Two" programs and news from the Maple Park Homeowners' Association, including updates on the regulation of short-term rentals in the Maple Park Historic District and MPHA get togethers. A Buffet & Bingo Fundraiser at Hawk's View Golf Club - 10/17, \$100.00. Swift Night Out, a free event, Sep't 5 at the museum. The Maple Park Home-Owners are having get-togethers in their neighborhood this summer. Also Maple Park Neighborhood Walking Tour on September 7th, Noon to 4 p. m. Short - term rentals: Ordinance needs to be enforced. People are paying fines. Jason Renz - call about violations.

Updates regarding Black Point Estate & Gardens, Horticultural Hall, and Historic Lake Geneva Walking Tours, including Black Point programs at the Lake Geneva Public Library. Black Point programs: An Evening with Agatha Christie - September 21, also walking tours in Maple Park. Beer Barons on Geneva Lake and their Milwaukee Neighbors - Sep't 5th. Library: September 19, 1942--The Year that tried our Souls.

Update on events at The Riviera, at the 1928 Geneva Theater / Geneva Stage, or local news items relating to the Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission. Geneva Stage: Elvis Presley Tribute, Jimmy Holmes 8/23.

Review of recent bills and invoices and updates on the current balance in the Lake Geneva Historic Preservation Commission 2024 City Budget. Our current balance is: \$11,025.00.

Discussion and comments regarding recent building / remodeling projects within National & State Historic Districts, including discussions and correspondence with Eduard Babayev proposed New House at 833 Wisconsin St. We explained our position about historic preservation. We cannot stop him from demolishing the house.

Update regarding the status of the Hillmoor Archaeological Site Survey and the proposed new Intensive Historic Survey of Lake Geneva, discussion regarding the nomination of the former Hillmoor Golf Course property as a National Historic Landscape under the Department of Interior Historic Landscape program. Peg met with Archaeologists today and walked around. Start working next week. Will allow 2 days for community to walk around. Will take two months, then will let us know the results. Ad Hoc Committee has not been formed. National Historic Landmark Site - it is a possibility, also idea about golf course, not out of picture. Hillmoor lecture series at the Library. Grace is working on the Historic Survey, Grant application is due in December.

Discussion regarding nominating the Lake Geneva Public Library as a National & State Historic Building. Majority of Commission support this. Maybe Research Grant. Peg will put on agenda at next city council.

Update on the "Wisconsin Historical Makers Tour History Walks" project at the Lake Geneva Public Library and any new follow-up information. September 5th - last day for the exhibit, already 10,000 people have walked by.

Discussion regarding updates to the City of Lake Geneva Chapter 34 -- Historic Preservation Ordinance, development of a new Local Historic Landmark Application Form, and the status of nomination applications for building such as The Riviera as Local Historic Landmarks. Chris, Emily and Sonja will put their heads together concerning a new application form.

Update regarding the repairs to the Lake Geneva Historic Railroad Site by Juan Aceves for the clean-up and repairs to the paver "footprints" of the Railroad Turntable, Engine House, and Water Tower, including removing a 16" wide strip of sod, raising the existing pavers, installing landscaping fabric, and resetting the pavers in a bed of mulch. The project has been completed and the payment of Juan Aceves' invoice has been approved. Also, discussion regarding the addition of directional signage at the existing Historic Railroad Site sign. Ken will ask Jim Sherin about a directional signage hanging from large sign - to indicate where buildings were.

Review of recent Historic Plaque Program applications and 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.

Update and discussion regarding the repair and/or replacement of any of the existing historic plaque and signs
by Jim Sherin at Timberline Signs. No new information.

Discussion regarding the status of the Three Graces statue, the relocation from Flat Iron Park to the Geneva Lake Museum, latest City funding information, and the future plans for repair and/or replacement of the Three Graces statue. Peg will put it on the agenda for the Park Board. Put on some kind of committee, to get something started.

Update 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. Update on any new information regarding renewal of I-phone app. We need to find someone with the city, who would take over this, if we give them some image, they will put it on city website, find someone who owns it and upgrade it weekly.

Discussion regarding new projects for the LGHPC, updates regarding the status of our website www.historyoflakegeneva.org, who to contact at City Hall regarding website revisions, and suggestions on potential future

LGHPC projects that we might want to consider. No new information.

Discussion regarding any new correspondence from Stephanie Klett and Deanna Goodwin at Visit Lake Geneva / Lake Geneva Chamber of Commerce on how the LGHPC can help promote tourism in Lake Geneva and better publicize our role in the community. The ribbon cutting ceremony at the Wisconsin Shipwreck History Walk.

Update on any new 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 the Local History & Historic Preservation Conference on October 16th to 18th at the Hilton Appleton Paper Valley Hotel in Appleton, Wisconsin.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Louise M. Rayppy