

Landmarks Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday December 13, 2018 – 6:30 pm

City Hall, Hall of Fame Room, Lower Level, 381 E. Main Street, Stoughton, WI.

Members Present: Peggy Veregin, Chair; Alan Hedstrom, Vice-Chair; Greg Pigarelli, Secretary; Kimberly Cook; Todd Hubing and Kristi Panthofer

Absent: Tom Majewski

Staff: Michael Stacey

Guests: Roger Springman and Emily Bahr

1. **Call to order.** Veregin called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.
2. **Consider approval of the Landmarks Commission meeting minutes of November 8, 2018.**
Motion by **Hubing** to approve the minutes as presented, 2nd by **Cook**. Motion carried 6 – 0.
3. **Discuss status of 1892 High School.**
Veregin stated the school district is conducting a survey of their facilities. The 1892 Coalition recently met to discuss various uses and to revitalize the discussion.

Roger Springman stated there is an op-ed in the Courier Hub that is disparaging to the credibility of a future use for the 1892 building. The Commission discussed how to respond to the article. Possible responses from various groups such as the Stoughton Historical Society, Landmarks Commission, Sustainable Stoughton, and 1892 Coalition were discussed. Veregin plans to draft a response for review by the Commission.

Hubing stated Mike Connor, a teacher at the High School is seeking to start an engineering program with the possibility that the 1892 building could house the program. But the focus for Mr. Connor is to start the program not necessarily seek the 1892 building for such use.

Roger Springman stated a school facilities report came out recently that indicated the River Bluff School location as the most lacking for future growth which should be a positive for future use of the 1892 building.

4. **Status update for the Power Plant building.**
Roger Springman stated Gary Becker is drafting a document to seek “requests for expression of interest” for specific sites within the development area including the power plant building and public works facility property. The idea is to seek interest and then narrow the field down to a couple who would provide a “request for proposal” to develop areas of the development.

The group discussed the timing of listing the power plant in the national and state registry for future tax credits. It may be best to wait for a developer since the tax credits would help pay for the work involved to list it.

Future parking and splitting of the property for the power plant was discussed which is believed to be dependent on the potential future uses.

5. **Review and make recommendations for amending section 78-518.**
Motion by **Cook** to recommend the Plan Commission remove this section or revise it, 2nd by **Hubing**. The commission would assist with a revision if requested. Motion carried 6 – 0.

6. Discuss Linderud photo collection.

Hubing plans to revise the www.historicstoughton.org website. Some photos have been added to the site recently with more to come. Hubing is trying to contact Art Wendt regarding some digital files he cannot locate.

7. Discuss Community Outreach.

Panthofer provided landmarks commission logo and social media designs for review and comment.

The group discussed Facebook content and it was suggested this could be discussed at each meeting.

Panthofer and Cook plan to work together on future Facebook posts.

Motion by Hedstrom to approved logo #4, 2nd by Hubing. Motion carried 6 – 0.

Stacey will check if there is a social media policy or format we should be aware of.

8. Discuss 2018 Preservation Award.

Veregin sent a letter to Tony Hill of the Badger Theater regarding the award. Once discussed, with Mr. Hill, a presentation is anticipated at a future Council meeting.

9. Status of 2017 and 2018 local landmark grants.

A spreadsheet summarizing the grants is provided in the packet.

Veregin would like the award date and deadline to be added to the spreadsheet.

The application guidelines for 2019 are planned to be reviewed at the January meeting. Veregin plans to provide information for this review.

10. Discuss 2019 Budget.

The 2019 budget request was approved including \$5000 for mini-grants, \$1,000 for plaques, website hosting and administration; and \$8,000 for beginning the process to create a Local Downtown District for a total of \$14,000

The group discussed priorities with the consensus being to get started on the 2019 mini-grants and then focus on the Local District.

A map of the Downtown Historic District is needed for discussion at the January meeting.

11. Discuss funding options available for the downtown area.

Discussions have been taking place at the Council level for potential TIF or other grant funding.

12. Commission Reports/Calendar.

Nothing discussed.

13. Future agenda items.

Discuss the downtown district to determine the appropriate area for the local district boundaries.

Motion by **Hedstrom** to change the February 14th meeting date to February 13th, 2nd by **Hubing**.

Motion carried 6 – 0.

14. Adjournment. Motion by **Hedstrom** to adjourn at 8:30 pm, 2nd by **Pigarelli**. Motion carried 6 - 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Stacey