

Landmarks Commission Meeting  
January 12, 2016  
Approved February 17, 2016

**Minutes**  
**Landmarks Commission Meeting**  
**January 12, 2016**  
**4:30 pm**

Chair Alder Mary O'Connor called the meeting of the Landmarks Commission for the City of Monona to order at 4:30pm.

Present: Chair Aldm. Mary O'Connor, Ms. Rebecca Holmquist, Ms. Branda Weix, Mr. Matt Aro, Mr. Rick Bernstein

Also present: City Planner Sonja Reichertz, and Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS) Archaeologist Amy Rosebrough.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Weix, seconded by Ms. Holmquist, to approve the minutes of December 16, 2015. The motion carried with no changes.

Appearances

Amy Rosebrough, Archaeologist, WHS, shared a brief overview of the archaeology of Monona, including that 33 archaeological sites have been recorded. There are at least 9 surviving mounds at six sites including: Lake Edge Park, Frost Woods Mounds, Outlet Mounds, Tompkins-Brindler, and Fairhaven. Ms. Rosebrough also outlined statutes that apply to different sites. No archaeological sites without burial components have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in Monona. Only one non-burial site has been evaluated for NRHP eligibility and it was found to be ineligible. This was the archaeological site at Lottes Park. Three mound groups (Lake Edge Park Mound, aka Reindahl/Monona Mound, Outlet Mound, and the Tompkins-Brindler Mound), are listed on the NRHP.

City Planner Reichertz said the Commission was interested in pursuing projects related to Monona's archaeological history and asked for recommendations from Ms. Rosebrough. Ms. Rosebrough recommended pursuing recognition on the NRHP for the Frost Woods Mounds and Fairhaven mounds. She said this would be a fairly simple process if there was property owner support. There was a general application done for Region 8 by Bob Birmingham that declared all of these mounds eligible for listing on the NRHP, and therefore completion of the application would be simple. The Frost Woods Mound group contains one of the few fork-tailed bird mounds left in Wisconsin. Ms. Rosebrough also noted that the Historical Society has very little information on the post-contact Winnequah Village which they know to have been a very substantial village along the lakeshore. They have not found the extent of the village yet.

There were no other appearances.

Unfinished Business

**A. Report on Status of Resolution Regarding Ratification of the Landmarks List and Status of the Revised Ordinance 13-1-64.**

City Planner Reichertz reported that the City Council reviewed the resolution ratifying the list of landmarks and the ordinance revisions for section 13-1-64 relating to historic conservation at their meeting on January 4, 2016. The Council will vote on these items at their next meeting.

**B. Discussion of Online Architectural Survey Database, Wisconsin Historical Society.**

Planner Reichertz shared a spreadsheet which lists the 35 records currently included on the WHS Architectural History Inventory. Some of the records are very sparse. The goal is to fill in missing data, correct inaccurate information, and eventually to find out if the Commission would like to inventory more sites. For new additions to the inventory in the future, she suggested having a more specific process and set of criterion for documenting sites. She also noted that not all of the local landmarks are included in the inventories, which have already been identified as important historical sites for the community, state, or nation. The Commission agreed that each member would select a few of the records to work on individually. Over time, the Commission will work with Joe DeRose at the WHS to update all of the Monona records.

**C. Discussion of Pagoda Restoration**

Ms. Holmquist had previously contacted a concrete specialist, A&M Masonry, who offered to look at the Pagoda. She is scheduling a date to visit the site and will notify the Landmarks Commission when the date is set. She has nothing new to report at this time.

New Business

**A. Discussion of Future Archaeological Research Projects.**

Ms. Rosebrough recommended pursuing recognition on the NRHP for the Frost Woods Mounds and Fairhaven mounds. Ms. Rosebrough also noted that the Historical Society has very little information on the post-contact Winnequah Village.

**B. Discussion of Oral Histories for WVMO Radio Records.**

City Planner Reichertz prepared readings for five selected landmarks. Chair O'Connor will ask current owners John and Mary Possin if they would like to record a reading for Ernie's Trading Post. Volunteers for the other readings were as follows: Frank Allis (O'Connor), Pagoda (Bernstein), Mounds (Aro), Nichols School (Weix). Planner Reichertz noted that these write-ups are just starting points and that the reader can edit them as they wish.

**C. Schedule of Regular Landmarks Commission Meetings 2016.**

The Commission agreed to set a regular schedule for the third Wednesday of each month at 4:30pm at the City Hall Conference Room for future meetings. The next meeting will be February 17, 2016 at 4:30pm.

**D. Discussion of Items for Future Agenda.**

Future agenda items will include discussion of the WHS Architectural History Inventory, Pagoda restoration updates, and archaeological projects.

Adjournment

A motion by Ms. Holmquist and seconded by Mr. Aro to adjourn was carried. (5:45 pm)

Submitted by:  
Sonja Reichertz  
City Planner