

MINUTES
City of Monona
Landmarks Commission
Wednesday June 10, 2020

Chair Schilling called the meeting of the Monona Landmarks Commission to order at 4:30 PM.

Present: Chair Kristie Schilling, Mr. Rick Bernstein, Ms. Branda Weix, Ms. Mary Murrell, and Ms. Rebecca Holmquist

Absent: Mr. Erik Lincoln and Ms. Anne Wellman

Also Present: Douglas Plowman, City Planner

Approval of Minutes

A motion by Mr. Bernstein, seconded by Ms. Holmquist, for the approval of the minutes of May 13, 2020 carried with no corrections.

Appearances

There were no appearances.

Unfinished Business

A. Discussion of 4123 Monona Drive Landmark Documentation

Planner Plowman gave an overview of the application, and what was included. At the Commission's request he had contacted Ann Waidelich regarding the year the property was built. She referenced multiple sources that suggest 1893 is the correct date, which was corroborated by not finding record of Mr. Allis in the 1889 assessment book for Blooming Grove.

Mr. Bernstein suggested edits to the proposed nomination form, including the original use and architectural style which will be addressed in advance of the next meeting. Ms. Murrell highlighted the current use, and suggested this be changed to read "vacant". Additionally, there was discussion of the significance of the home or the site, and if native remains were found on the site. The question of remains is still unanswered, but it was agreed that the document can continue to evolve as more information is available.

Ms. Murrell discussed the Winnequah Road Mound Group and asked if that included this property. Chair Schilling was unsure of the exact boundaries but will ask Mr. Quackenbush, the Tribal Historian of the Ho-Chunk Nation. Specifically, Ms. Murrell was interested if excavations have taken place on the property.

New Business

A. Review of Draft Requests for Proposals for Professional Services for National Register Nomination

A draft RFP was shared with the Commission for their consideration. The RFP was general and didn't include specific properties for consultants to base their pricing on. Mr. Bernstein recommended it would be best to identify the properties that are interested before publishing the RFP. This may involve a meeting with State Historical Society Staff, where information and benefits of National Register Nomination are shared. Ms. Holmquist raised her doubts that an in-person meeting may not be feasible in the near-term. Planner Plowman explained that as part of the application for the CLG funding consultants had submitted price ranges based on property types, although it may be simpler to go to the consultants with a list of willing properties. Mr. Bernstein suggested that the hiring of multiple consultants may be best to share the workload.

B. Discussion of Certified Local Government Grant Nomination Process

Planner Plowman outlined the next steps for the CLG nomination. He will coordinate a meeting, most likely in mid to late July via Zoom for those potentially eligible property owners. He plans to send letters, as well as making himself available for phone calls. The RFP will wait until after a list of interested properties is developed. Mr. Bernstein added that if the full CLG funding is not spent, there may be other opportunities to spend the money, possibly on local landmark designations for example.

C. Review of Draft Requests for Proposals for Professional Services for Springhaven Pagoda Roof Repair

Planner Plowman updated the Commission that he had contacted Patrick Eagan at Iconica regarding the scan of the Pagoda. At this point a scan is needed to be able to model the roof and understand how a replacement could be built. It had been the hope that an RFP could be reviewed by the Commission with a view to understanding the cost of restoration work. Staff are still trying to discuss the scan and project with Iconica. An update will be shared at the next meeting.

Mr. Bernstein asked about the stormwater work that is currently being discussed as Stone Bridge Park. Planner Plowman responded that this is more of an engineering project, and has been scaled back from the previous park plan that was shared. That being said, there are likely economies that can occur with the work, and it may make sense to work on or around the Pagoda concurrently should the capital request be successful.

D. Staff Updates

i. Monona Mound Marker

Planner Plowman shared that he has been working with Pechmann Memorials to mount the Monona Mound Marker. A suitable stone has been found, and it is cut with a smooth face. This will allow for easier mounting, while not compromising durability. The stone has been shared with the property owner, and he has approved it. Expected delivery is 3-4 weeks, Staff will coordinate a dedication with Commission members.

Upcoming meetings

Upcoming meetings are scheduled for July 8, 2020 and August 12, 2020.

Adjournment

A motion by Mr. Bernstein, seconded by Ms. Murrell, to adjourn carried. (5:15pm)

Submitted by,

Doug Plowman, City Planner