

MINUTES  
City of Monona  
Landmarks Commission  
Wednesday July 14, 2021

Chair Goforth called the meeting of the Monona Landmarks Commission to order at 4:32 PM.

Present: Chair Kristie Goforth, Ms. Branda Weix, Mr. John Chapman, Ms. Peggy Michaelis and Ms. Rebecca Holmquist

Absent: Ms. Anne Wellman and Mr. Rick Bernstein

Also Present: Douglas Plowman, City Planner

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion by Ms. Michaelis, seconded by Ms. Holmquist, for the approval of the minutes of June 9, 2021 carried with no corrections.

**Appearances**

Ms. Mary Delaney – 5108 Mesa Rd. Ms. Delaney requested that the City consider honoring Indigenous People’s Day and Native American Heritage Month with a “land acknowledgement in recognition and appreciation of the Native American peoples who were here before”. One suggestion was the possibility of a walking/biking route that highlights the sites within the City. For those on public land it was proposed that they could include some signage that provides a brief history of the site. Additionally, Ms. Delaney shared her concern for the lack of protections for possible burial sites on the San Damiano property and asked that these be implemented by the City as soon as possible.

**Unfinished Business**

None.

**New Business**

**A. Discussion of Draft National Register Nomination for 4811 Tonyawatha Trail**

Mr. Heggland, the consultant working on the nominations, gave an overview of the application for the Commission, and discussed some of the main points included in the document. He shared that it was a great nomination, with a wealth of information available. The house is in excellent condition, and the owners are very passionate about the property. The additions that have been made are in keeping with the integrity of the existing structure.

The Commission thanked Mr. Heggland for an excellent nomination. Mr. Chapman asked if the owners fully endorsed the nomination, which Mr. Heggland responded they do. There was discussion of the orientation to the lake, and how many properties of this era did not fully utilize the views and orientation to the lake. Some small edits were suggested to the application; which Mr. Plowman will share with Mr. Heggland so that he can make adjustments to the document. Edits can continue to be made even after the review before the application is considered final.

**B. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Certified Local Government Grant Allocation**

City Planner Plowman updated the Commission on the status of the Certified Local Government (CLG) grant funding. He had been in discussion with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) regarding the status and ensuring the full grant award is spent. Given the challenges of COVID and limited resources used to date, the SHPO will request a 1-year extension for the grant. This is not guaranteed, but would allow extra time to use the funding. Mr. Plowman asked

for assistance from Commissioners to contact owners directly on behalf of the Commission to ask if there was interest and assess if there was a possibility of moving forward.

The property at 6106 Winnequah was discussed as a potential opportunity given the owners and their involvement with historic preservation. Ms. Holmquist offered to contact the owners and discuss in more detail. Ms. Weix raised the Schwenn's Service property, and said she would contact the owner directly. The owner had previously expressed interest in a nomination, but was unable to commit in the original timeframe. The question of a potential Frost Woods Historic District was also raised, as it had been discussed at the previous Frost Woods Homeowner's Association meeting. Ms. Holmquist shared that the preference from this group was for the City to set up an informational meeting in partnership with the SHPO.

Signage was discussed, including purchasing plaques for those nominated to the National Register through the CLG grant process as well as a possible sign at Winnequah or Oneida Park recognizing Ho-Chunk heritage. Signs have been deemed an eligible expense by the SHPO, and they are a possibility. A question was raised about the maintenance of signage, both for new and existing signs. Mr. Plowman will coordinate for those items raised to be addressed when it falls within the City's purview. The Commission will wait for owner approval before motioning for any additional funds to be spent on nominations.

**C. Discussion and Possible Recommendation to Parks & Recreation Board Regarding Installation of Warning Signs at San Damiano Property to Protect Existing Burial Mound**

Chair Goforth provided an update on the efforts to preemptively protect certain areas within the grounds of San Damiano. She shared concerns about a possible burial mound on the site, and the need to protect this now the site has public access. These concerns have been shared with both Parks Director Anderson and City Administrator Gadow. Mr. Plowman provided an update that the City Administrator is gathering materials to rope off the area of concern, and that best practices are being discussed from a parks operation standpoint. The Commission agreed that this was a sensible approach, and something they supported.

**D. Staff Updates**

**i. National Register Nomination Update**

Two applications have now been submitted (Kohl's Food Store and 4811 Tonyawatha). Mr. Heggland is working on the Bungalowen property and expects this to be complete within the next two months.

**ii. Springhaven Pagoda Roof Replacement**

Mr. Plowman met on site with the project manager to discuss the construction documents, and Commission review (as appropriate). It is expected that the roof replacement will begin once the substantial park improvements have been made.

**iii. Updates/Discussion on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Efforts**

There was discussion of enhancing the documentation of Native American resources, particularly on the City website. This could include educational materials, compiled documentation and maps (either interactive or PDF).

**E. Landmarks Commission Requests for City Staff**

**Upcoming meetings**

Upcoming meetings are scheduled for August 11, 2021 and September 8, 2021

**Adjournment**

A motion by Ms. Holmquist, seconded by Ms. Weix, to adjourn carried. (5:35pm)

Submitted by,

Douglas Plowman, City Planner