

Landmarks Commission Meeting
December 14, 2010
Minutes Approved January 11, 2011

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The meeting of the Landmarks Commission for the City of Monona was called to order by Chair Mary Lou Burczyk at 4:00 p.m. in the City Hall Break Room.

Present: Chair Mary Lou Burczyk, Ms. Jane Kuzma, Mr. Jerry Nelson, Mr. Ray Krizmanic, and Ms. Shirley Homburg

Also Present: Planning and Community Development Coordinator Paul Kachelmeier, Planning Administrative Assistant Rachel Jacques, former Chair of the Landmarks Commission Jan Marshall Fox; and photographer White-Maurice Thaler.

Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Kuzma, seconded by **Mr. Nelson**, to approve the minutes of November 9, 2010 with one (1) correction.

The motion carried.

Appearances

There were no appearances and the appearance section was declared closed.

Unfinished Business

5A. Discussion of reprinting of Landmarks Booklet

The Commission discussed the process of getting color photos converted to black and white for the reprinting and updating of the Landmarks Booklet. Photographer White-Maurice Thaler was present to offer his services and discussed the details.

It was discussed that the Landmarks Commission could either take new photos or use the old ones from the Booklet, and Mr. Thaler said it is very easy to convert color photos to black and white for the Booklet. For re-sizing photos, it is best to start with the original film (negatives), but photo prints and even newspaper images could be used if need be he said.

It was discussed that the photos used for the original book were not enhanced. Mr. Thaler said he could make minor enhancements such as sharpening the image and adjusting contrast. The group discussed the possibility of using the original plates (for ink injection), which were returned to the City by the original printers, Impressions. Mr. Thaler could sharpen these if needed, but this may not be necessary since their work is high quality.

The Landmarks Commission discussed the new book will be larger in size: 7x11 inches, and in a horizontal format like the current Booklet. They discussed that we will not assign a set number of pages, but see what we want to include and then determine a size.

Ms. Kuzma asked how much of the existing text we are planning to use?

It was discussed by the Landmarks Commission members we would use 90% or so. It was suggested we could use OCR (optical character recognition) for scanning the existing document into workable text. Planning Administrative Assistant Rachel Jacques said she could work on this. Ideas for finding this kind of scanner include the university libraries, State History Museum, and State Historical Society.

Mr. Thaler requested that the Commission gather all of the photos they wish to use and give them to him in one batch. If photos have to be resized, he would like to know in advance. If we would like him to take new photos, there would be some charge for the service.

Ms. Marshall Fox asked for a time estimate for the photo enhancements. Mr. Thaler said he could probably have them back to the Commission in a week or so after he receives them.

Mr. Thaler asked what will be done when the new booklets are printed to distribute them and make them available to the public?

The Commission discussed that they would put together plans to hold a celebration to make the booklets available and promote them, then have copies for sale at libraries, schools, etc. The photographer suggested that we also use supplementary materials for posting online—for example, photos that can't be included in the new book, and interview clips with oral histories (such as those with the Whitehorse family). This could make the material more widely accessible, especially to younger folks interested in Monona history.

It was the consensus of the Landmarks Commission that we will likely re-use some of the old photos and take some new ones to round out the collection. At the next Landmarks Commission meeting (January 11, 2011), the group will collect all of the photos, edit the collection, and give them to Ms. Burczyk for delivery to Mr. Thaler.

Mr. Krizmanic commented that it was in the last meeting's minutes that he emailed Mary Paynter, to recall some things about the house. Per the reply email from Mary, it seems that Schneider built the house in question, and Paynters bought it in the early 1950s, then they eventually sold it to Opitz. We might be able to use this story for marketing.

The Commission decided to assign tasks to individuals (staff is making a calendar):

- Ms. Burczyk and Ms. Kuzma will transcribe and edit down more of the interviews of Native Americans.
- Mr. Kachelmeier will gather photos from his files, and make copies of the most recently transcribed interviews with the Whitehorses for the next meeting. He also will work on writing a new section on the Royal Airport.
- Mr. Nelson and Mr. Krizmanic will work on the section on Lustron, Sears, prefabs, and Tudor homes, and the Parade of Homes (for POH would like to include a house plan and a current photograph if possible), and Paynter's/Schneider's home

- Ms. Homburg and Ms. Marshall Fox said they would read though the current Booklet and see what sections need updating.
- It was discussed we still need someone to write about the new Indian Mounds, the Outlet Mound and the Thompkins-Brindler Mound, and the Roselawn Tower of Memories.

5.A. Approval of \$1,600 grant by the Dane County Cultural Affairs Commission

Mr. Kachelmeier reported that we received a \$1,600 grant from the Dane County Cultural Affairs Commission (DCCAC). He said that we requested \$3,200 and were granted \$1,600. The funds the Landmarks Commission has are \$3,900 (for book, landmarks escrow, and airport marker).

It was discussed that we were planning on printing 500 copies. The last quote we had is from late 2009 and we should get a new quote.

Ms. Burczyk said the Monona Grove Businessmen's Association might want to donate something.

Mr. Krizmanic asked if we are still going to have a public get-together in the spring to collect more information? The consensus of the Landmarks Commission is we should do this.

Mr. Kachelmeier said the e-mailed DCCAC about the administration of the grant, and staff is following up on that. He will re-do the budget, and make a calendar/spreadsheet with tasks so we keep on task.

New Business

The Planning and Community Development Department has hired a new part-time Planning Administrative Assistant. Rachel Jacques is an alumna of UW-Madison's Urban and Regional Planning program. She will be able to assist with the new Landmarks Booklet, in addition to day-to-day office duties.

Miscellaneous Business

The Landmarks Commission discussed planning to hold a "Heritage Days" event for late Summer 2011

The Commission discussed that the Frost Woods Homes Association will have its 75th anniversary in 2011, and Bungalowen its 100th anniversary, next summer. The FHA event is set for the first Saturday after Labor Day (Sept. 10, 2011) Ms. Marshall Fox said. She said they will have a picnic for the event at their house. It was discussed this could be something we could work with to have a "heritage days" event, maybe on the 10th or the 11th?

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Ms. Marshall Fox pointed out that people tend to drive, rather than walk, on our tours. She suggested that maybe instead of a walk, we could have Jim Draeger (Head of State Historical Society) give a talk, and people could do the tour on their own time?

The Landmarks Commission decided we want to have the booklet reprinted by June 2011, so that it will be ready to hand out and sell at the fall event, which we will hold on the second Sunday in September. We will also announce this in the spring newsletter, with the date (Sept. 11, 2011).

Ms. Kuzma said she would like to receive the minutes and other documents by email, in case the regular post does not arrive in time for her to review the materials.

The next meeting will be January 11, 2011 at 4:00 p.m., and we will also meet in January on January 25, 2011.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Krizmanic, seconded by Ms. Homburg, to adjourn.

The motion carried.

5:00 p.m.

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