# HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 7, 2013 MEETING

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Wood at 4:01 P.M. in Conference Room 108 of City Hall Plaza.

**PRESENT:** Ken Wood; Alderperson Gary Cummings; Ken Bargender; Vickie Schnitzler; Bill

Penker; and, Keith Meacham.

**ABSENT:** Carl Scott (excused)

**ALSO** 

**PRESENT:** Matt McLean, Director of Convention and Visitors Bureau; Josh Miller, Planner/Zoning

Administrator; and, Sam Schroeder, Planning Intern.

# Approval of the Minutes of September 9, 2013 Meeting.

<u>HP13-23</u> Motion by Penker second by Cummings to approve the minutes of the 9/9/2013 meeting. **Motion Carried.** 

Schnitzler arrived at 4:03 P.M.

#### Citizen Comments.

Miller shared with the Committee about the Round Barn bunker restoration.

Matt McLean thanked Keith and staff for attending the Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) meeting to discuss the Soo Line Steam Locomotive No. 2442.

Schnitzler distributed a handout with a webinar address for Wood County Railroads.

# Update regarding meeting with Convention and Visitors Bureau discussion on the Soo Line Steam Locomotive No. 2442.

McLean explained the CVB response to the presentation on the Soo Line Steam Locomotive No. 2442. They want to see what the overall long term goal moving forward and would like to see how it could be turned into a tourist destination.

The CVB is also interested in the amount of restoration still needed after the cab and roof repair. Meacham said we may need to replace the wooden end beams on both ends of the tender. And there are certain parts that were left off when the engine was donated (the front now has a cow catcher that wasn't original). He said it depends on what look is desired by the Committee. Should the objective be to restore it to where it's not going to be destroyed by the weather, restore it to its original condition, or restore it at a certain place in time?

Meacham passed around a picture with information on a caboose for sale for \$16,000 and asked if the Committee would think about putting it down by Wildwood. The Committee mentioned the cost to transport as well as the cost for site prep down by the engine that may make that project not very feasible at this time

Schnitzler said there could be a lot of uses for a caboose and suggested it could be used for special

events.

Wood said there wouldn't be a lot of space inside for large or even small gatherings.

Adding the caboose could open up a few more doors for partners in helping support the overall project.

Bargender asked if the security fence is needed. The fence, as it is right now, makes the area uninviting. Meacham said the engine in Stevens Point is open, but they do have issues with vandalism.

Wood read through the questions in the memo and the Committee seemed favorable with the suggestions.

Consider UWSP students and Leadership Marshfield to help assist with the plan.

Penker said that the purpose of the Committee according to the ordinance is to protect, enhance and perpetuate historic structures and sites. In this case, that means the engine. Whose job is it for promotion? Penker asked who should best be suited to do the promotion of the engine. He suggested a contact be made with Two Harbors, Minnesota to see who repairs, maintains, and promotes the engine. Meacham thought the Lake Superior Railroad Museum takes care of it.

McLean asked what the Committee feels would be the best use of the engine. Once the Committee decides what the best thing is to do with the engine, then the promotions side of things could happen.

## Update on the Downtown Eau Claire Development Project impacting Historic Buildings.

Penker requested to move this agenda item down after Item 7, Update from the State Historic Preservation Office on Historic Homes near Columbia Park. By unanimous consent, the Committee agreed to move the item down.

## Update on Tour at the Marshfield Junior High.

Miller will work with Ron if we can hold the November meeting at the Marshfield Middle School.

#### Update from the State Historic Preservation Office on Historic Homes near Columbia Park.

Miller said they are waiting for someone to get into the area to revisit the intensive survey for this area.

## Update on the Downtown Eau Claire Development Project impacting Historic Buildings.

Miller explained the background behind the Eau Claire Confluence project. Basically, the City was proposing to raze three city blocks in downtown including buildings within a Historic District on the National Register to allow for a community center, plaza, and a multi-tenant building. The Landmark Commission was holding a public hearing to see if the buildings should be designated as local landmarks. The property owners were not supportive having that designation.

Penker posed the question of what if a similar situation to Eau Claire was to happen to the City of Marshfield? What would be the Committee's responsibilities be if we have an historic district, but no buildings designated as historic?

Miller stated that even if it's on the National Register, it could still be torn down. Schnitzler thought that there were some hoops to go through to raze a building on the National Register, but it could ultimately be torn down.

## Set Meeting Date and Future Agenda Items.

The next regular Historic Preservation Committee meeting will be held on Monday, November 4, 2013 tentatively at the Marshfield Middle School. The agenda of the next regularly scheduled meeting should include approval of the October 7, 2013 meeting minutes, and update on the Historic Conference.

# Adjourn.

Motion by Bargender, second by Schnitzler to adjourn meeting at 5:07 P.M.

#### **Motion Carried**

Respectfully submitted,

God Miller

Josh Miller

Planner/Zoning Administrator