

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
OF APRIL 5, 2010 MEETING

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Guensburg at 4:00 PM in Conference Room 108 of City Hall Plaza.

PRESENT: Carl Scott, Alderman Dave LaFontaine, Ken Wood, Gary Gray, Iris Guensburg, and Scott Noble

ABSENT: David Korth

ALSO

PRESENT: Shirley Mook and Ruth Voss, Historic Preservation Association; Denise Sonnemann, Executive Director of Main Street Marshfield; Josh Miller, Planner/Zoning Administrator; Candace Zeinert, Planning Intern

Minutes of February 1, 2010 Meeting.

HP10-13 Motion by LaFontaine, second by Wood to approve the minutes of the 3/1/2010 meeting with the following addition under "Discussion of the City of Marshfield's proposed Sprinkler Ordinance":

Deputy Fire Chief Erickson stated that the revised sprinkler ordinance had been modified. It now affected buildings starting under 6,000 sq. ft. rather than 5,000. Noble recommended that the sprinkler ordinance should exclude all historic buildings. Wood argued that would be unfair to all other buildings affected by the ordinance. Deputy Fire Chief Erickson agreed. Noble then stated that we were already being unfair by letting the buildings with 5,000-6,000 sq. ft. off the hook.

All 'Ayes' Motion Carried.

Citizen Comments.

The Committee suggested that they should approve the minutes before they are approved by Council in case additions are made to the minutes in the future.

Gray had requested that a change be made to the agenda to include "Old Business". Miller explained that a change could not be made to the agenda during the meeting. Changes to the agenda require a 24-hour notice. Scott asked what about emergency situations where there isn't enough time for a 24-hour notice? Miller said he would look at the statutes to see what allowance there is in case of an emergency.

Gray then asked if we could add "Old Business" back on the agenda for future meetings. Miller stated that based on conversations with City staff, it was recommended that "Old Business" and "New Business" be taken off the agendas as stand alone topics. Gray asked that an agenda item be placed on the May agenda to commend Ken Wood for his newspaper article.

Gray and Noble both asked that we include an agenda item addressing how the Committee operates regarding putting items on future agendas. Next month they also want to discuss how the sprinkler ordinance was added to last month's agenda after it was sent out and why they weren't informed that Deputy Chief Erickson would be at the meeting.

Distribution of Temporary Historic Preservation Month Signs for Historic Homes

Miller stated that the Committee will need volunteers from the Historic Preservation Committee or other sources to put up the signs this year. We will be adding a tag to the signs that says if you don't want the signs on the property to call 715-486-2075 (Zoning) and we can remove them. The Alternative School is unable to assist with putting up the signs unless we have permission to put the signs up. Obtaining permission from all the houses would be rather difficult, so we will have to have volunteers to put up the signs the first weekend of May. Miller added that we could put a notice in the paper about the signs and direct home owners to contact the Planning and Economic Development Department if they don't want a sign in their yard.

Guensburg added that she will take care of the "Historic Building" signs.

Update and discussion on the Hartl Manor

Miller stated that he contacted the State Historical Society about getting an architect to take a history of the Hartl Manor. The two area historical architects were contacted. Tom Brown in Stevens Point was too busy this spring to take on additional projects. Pat Lacey from Neillsville provided a quote of \$1,200. Wood commented that he did already have a lot of the oral history and photographs and he would provide that information to whoever puts a historic record together for the Hartl Manor. The Committee suggested that the project could be done locally and that maybe the Assessor would have the dimensional information. Miller said he would check with the Assessor.

Noble brought up that other buildings have been demolished with very little warning and Gray asked if the City had a policy regarding that. Scott said that there is a process in place for the national register. Miller wasn't aware of any policy, but said he would look into it.

Noble mentioned that maybe the Committee should work on identifying or targeting buildings of interest to be preserved. Mook added that any policy would have to include some criteria as to what should be preserved. LaFontaine said that the policy should also take cost into consideration as to whether a building could be preserved or saved from demolition. Gray stated that he would like to see this on next month's agenda.

Gray also added that the Committee should discuss historic preservation grants next month.

Update on the Columbia Park Band Shell historic plaque

Miller explained that he worked with Jim Rasmussen, the former band director for the Columbia Park Band Shell, to develop the language for the plaque which states the following:

COLUMBIA PARK BAND SHELL
1931
DESIGNED AND BUILT BY FRANK A.
FELHOFER & SONS IN THE ART DECO STYLE.
ORIGINALLY USED AS THE HOME OF THE
135TH MEDICAL REGIMENT BAND, IT NOW
SERVES THE CITY OF MARSHFIELD FOR BAND
CONCERTS AND PUBLIC EVENTS.
MARSHFIELD HISTORIC REGISTER

Miller added that staff presented the bronze plaque idea to the Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Committee to see if they would consider paying for the difference. According to the historic plaque policy, the Historic Preservation Committee can pay for the cost of a granite plaque, and the property

owner would have to pay the difference. The bronze plaque is \$600 and the granite plaque is only \$200. The Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Committee agreed to pay the difference or \$400 in order to get a bronze plaque for the band shell. They did request that the Historic Preservation Committee review and consider changing their historic plaque policy to allow the Committee to pay for a historic bronze plaque on public buildings.

HP10-14 Motion by LaFontaine, second by Scott to approve the Committee's payment of \$200 for the bronze plaque and approve the revised language for the Columbia Park Band Shell as written
All 'Ayes' Motion Carried.

Review of photos for West 5th/6th Street Historic District Brochures

Staff reviewed the photos within the West 5th/6th Street Historic District with the Historic Preservation Committee and the Committee has selected the following homes to appear in the brochure:

- 807 W 5th
- 812 W 5th
- 900 W 5th
- 1010 W 5th
- 512 S Hardacre
- 903 W 6th
- 807 W 6th
- 712 W 6th

The Committee felt it was important to make the brochures full color and have the cover of this brochure be a picture of a house within the District. Miller mentioned the title of the name of the district should also be moved to the top so people could identify the different districts more easily. Miller added that it may cost extra to do so.

HP10-15 Motion by Gray, second by Scott to approve payment of up to \$632 for the full color brochures plus up to an additional \$100 to have the front cover in color and setup by having the title of the brochure moved to the top. If the additional cost exceeds \$100 for the cover color and setup change, the Committee will hold a special meeting.
All 'Ayes' Motion Carried.

Discuss the Historic Preservation Webpage on the City's Website

Miller explained that in February the Committee discussed uploading the Power Points of the speakers from the Historic Preservation Workshop on the City's Website. Staff has since found out the City won't be able to host these materials. Miller did mention that the website will be updated in the near future and that staff would like to keep the website current with the latest projects that the Committee is working on.

Gray stated that his number should be put on the website and added that someone may want to do a summary of the workshop for the website.

Review and update of the Historic Preservation Plan

HP10-16 Motion by LaFontaine, second by Wood to move the Review and update of the Historic Preservation Plan to next month's meeting.
All 'Ayes' Motion Carried.

Discuss Central Business District portion of the Sign Code

Miller reported that the Central Business District Sign Oversight Committee will be reviewing the Central Business portion of the Municipal Sign Code to recommend changes to the Plan Commission. That Committee asked that this item was placed on the Historic Preservation Committee’s agenda for any feedback. Currently, the maximum sign area for businesses in the Central Business District is 25 percent of the wall area below 26 feet in height plus ten percent wall area over 26 feet in height. Additionally, they are looking to modify the Central Business District Design Guidelines and adopt them by ordinance so they can be enforced. The next Central Business District Sign Oversight Committee to review the Guidelines is scheduled for Tuesday, April 6, 2010 at 10:30 am at Main Street.

HP10-17 Motion by LaFontaine, second by Gray that the changes to the Central Business District Design Guidelines be presented to the Historic Preservation Committee when a draft is available.

All ‘Ayes’ Motion Carried.

Discuss Historic Preservation Month Activities

Miller distributed a brochure for the Historic Preservation Month Activities held in May.

Update on Soo Line Steam Locomotive No. 2442 project

Mook stated that a cleaning and painting of the engine will take place this summer. She added that there is some money left over in the budget for replacing the seats and roof work on the cab. The Committee mentioned that there should be some consideration to put the 2442 on the local register and that it should be an agenda item next time.

Scott stated that there is a donor board by the engine, but the display lacks a clear explanation as to the significance and history of the engine.

The Committee also suggested that future agendas should contain an item: “Set Next Meeting and Agenda Items.”

Adjourn.

Motion by LaFontaine, second by Gray to adjourn meeting @ 5:28 PM.

All ‘Ayes’ Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Josh Miller
Planner/Zoning Administrator