

MINUTES  
City of Monona  
Landmarks Commission  
Wednesday February 13, 2019

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

Present: Chair Doug Wood, Ms. Anne Wellman, Ms. Rebecca Holmquist, and Ms. Branda Weix

Absent: Mr. Erik Lincoln, Ms. Mary Murrell, and Mr. Rick Bernstein

Also Present: Ciara Miller, City Planning Assistant

**Approval of Minutes:**

A motion by Ms. Holmquist, seconded by Ms. Wellman, for the approval of the minutes of January 9, 2019 carried with one correction (3-0).

**Appearances**

There were no appearances.

**Unfinished Business**

**A. Resolution for the City of Monona to Officially Recognize May as Historic Preservation & Archaeology Month.**

A motion by Ms. Holmquist, seconded by Ms. Weix, to remove this item from the table carried.

Planning Assistant Ciara Miller brought a new draft of the resolution before the Commission. The resolution was expanded to include purpose statements in the resolution that are aligned with the purpose of the updated Historic Preservation Ordinance.

A motion to approve the resolution as written and presented before the commission today was made by Ms. Weix seconded by Ms. Holmquist. The motion carried (3-0).

**New Business**

**A. Discussion regarding the upcoming Urban Arts Festival that will take place in Monona in August of 2019.**

Ms. Miller stated that a commission member brought it to her attention that an art festival will be taking place along Monona Drive this summer, where select businesses have elected to allow artists to paint a mural on an exterior façade. The event organizers know that no landmark properties can partake in the event without Landmark Commission review. However, unless the property is a current and existing landmark, the Landmarks Commission does not have review authority over business participation in the event.

Ms. Holmquist stated that her concern was that the city-wide architectural survey that is currently being conducted by Mead & Hunt may show new properties that are eligible for landmark/National Register status. In light of that concern, once Mead & Hunt's study is concluded, Staff will cross reference the list of eligible properties with those that have signed up to participate in the art event to see if any potential future landmark is registered as a participating business.

**B. Advisory Recommendation to the Plan Commission for a Determination of Appropriateness Regarding Proposed Alterations to the City of Monona Landmarked Property at 4705 Tonyawatha Trail.**

Mark Henrichs, architect, was present to review the project. The property owners want a garage and currently do not have any covered parking for their vehicles. They do not want to detract from the historic character of the home and feel that the site lends itself well to keeping the proposed garage out of sight since it will be built into the hillside of the property. For the portion that is above ground/visible, they have chosen all complimentary materials to what exists on the historic home. The architect along with contractor, Joel Nelson, believe that a sod roof will be possible and will help the garage blend into the hillside. Mr. Henrichs said that a railing will be required on the roof but that they felt it contributes to the character of the property. The railing will be wooden and painted or stained to compliment the trim on the house. The stone won't be an exact match to the foundation of the house but it will compliment.

Ms. Holmquist stated that the proposed materials should complement the home but not match it exactly. Mr. Henrich said that precise materials have not been chosen yet, but agreed with Ms. Holmquist's statement.

The grading of the property is such that the home sits 3 feet above the roofline of the garage. Toi Pedrick, property owners, stated that work was done on the yard this past spring to clear debris and fill was brought in. The sod roof was chosen because it not only helps blend the garage into the site, but also preserves yard space and reduces impervious surface on the site. Ms. Holmquist was concerned about how much grade would be removed by constructing the garage, but since the yard consisted of fill brought in during the Spring 2018, the slope was not natural and thus not as much of a concern for historic character of the site.

A motion by Ms. Wellman, seconded by Ms. Weix, to recommend to the Plan Commission that the project, as represented by the renderings submitted to the commission, and pending Plan Commission review of material samples, does not detrimentally change, destroy, or adversely affect any architectural feature of the landmark and that the proposed work is in harmony with the historic characteristics of the landmark site. The motion carried (3-0).

**C. Discussion of Possible Programs to Host in May for Historic Preservation Month.**

The Commission agreed that the Monona Mound Plaque dedication will be the primary event during Historic Preservation & Archaeology month. The Commission agreed that the dedication ceremony should take place at the Monona public library due to concerns about safety, parking, and weather concerns about doing it on-site, since the mound is located on private property along Monona Drive.

A motion by Ms. Holmquist, seconded by Ms. Weix, to hold the Monona Mound Dedication Ceremony at the Monona Public Library carried. (3-0)

Alder Wood informed the Commission that Rick Bernstein has reached out to a couple colleagues at the Wisconsin Historical Society to see if any would be interested in speaking at the dedication. It is intended that the plaque will be on display at the library leading up to the dedication, prior to being installed at the landmark site. Ciara will contact the library and to get available dates for the dedication ceremony to take place.

It was also suggested that the Landmarks Commission should promote the Landmarks Walking Tour that was put together a couple years ago. The Landmark Commission felt that this would be enough programming for the inaugural year of Historic Preservation & Archaeology Month.

**D. Discussion of items for future agenda.**

The Springhaven Pagoda will need to come back so that process can keep moving forward. The Commission also requested that when Ciara sends progress reports on the city wide architectural survey to the Wisconsin Historical Society, that they also receive the report.

**Upcoming meetings**

Upcoming meetings are tentatively scheduled for February 13, 2019 and March 13, 2019.

**Adjournment**

A motion by Ms. Holmquist, seconded by Ms. Weix, to adjourn carried. (5:09pm)

Submitted by,

Ciara Miller, City Planning Assistant