

HISTORIC SITES PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Friday, May 7, 2010

Administrative Center, Room B390

9:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vicki Twinde-Javner, H. King Holley, Barb Kooiman (9:08; exc.-9:34-9:54), Anne Loomis, Beverly Mach, Harriet Schuppel, Kent Sween

MEMBERS EXCUSED: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Margaret Norden, Errol Kindschy, Norman Berg, Phyllis Berg, Linda Saley

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Vicki Twinde-Javner called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

APPROVE MINUTES OF MARCH 31, 2010

Bev Mach noted the following corrections to the discussion on the Iron Overhead Truss Bridge: Change "La Crosse River bike path" to "the bike path along Highway 16"; and add "and lobbying the DOT" after "the McGilvray Road group that had a historic bridge moved to the Van Loon Preserve."

MOTION by Schuppel/Sween to approve the Minutes of March 31, 2010, as amended. **Motion carried unanimously.** Kooiman excused.

PUBLIC HEARING: DESIGNATION OF PALMER LEWIS OCTAGON HOUSE AS A HISTORIC SITE IN LA CROSSE COUNTY

Chair Twinde-Javner opened the public hearing at 9:05 a.m. Errol Kindschy spoke about the recent open house. The house will open to the public on May 7, 2010, as a tourism center and historic house. There being no questions or further discussion, the public hearing was closed at 9:09 a.m.

APPROVE DESIGNATION OF PALMER LEWIS OCTAGON HOUSE AS A HISTORIC SITE IN LA CROSSE COUNTY

MOTION by Kooiman/Loomis to approve the designation of the Palmer Lewis Octagon House as a Historic Site in La Crosse County. **Motion carried unanimously.** Corporation Counsel will be asked to draft a resolution for the Historic Sites Preservation Commission, the Planning, Resources & Development Committee, and the full County Board. If adopted, the resolution will be recorded with the Register of Deeds.

NOTE: Upon noting members of the public present to speak on behalf of the Striped School nomination, the Chair took the following item out of order.

UPDATE ON POSSIBLE NOMINATIONS / NOMINATION PROCESS

- Striped School: The building owners, Norman and Phyllis Berg, accompanied by Linda Saley, spoke about the condition of the building and stated they were in favor of having the building nominated as a historic site. Barb stated she will start the nomination and oral history. Harriet stated that the Bangor Historical Society may be able to help with the nomination. Discussion was held regarding grant money for restoration.
- Oehler Farmstead
- Greenfield Town Hall
- Mindoro Cut: Barb stated she can use information in the National Register nomination.
- Swarthout House
- Lake Neshonoc Dam & Powerhouse: Barb did research and has documentation.
- Stone Cellar in Town of Greenfield
- Middle Ridge School: Bev reported she has been in contact with Arlene Schmidt.

No other updates than noted.

UPDATE ON GRANT FROM WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Chair provided a draft of the Request for Proposal to seek a qualified historian to research the Oehler Farmstead. She explained that the form would have to be approved by the State Historical Society, but that she followed their examples. **NOTE:** Barb Kooiman was excused for the remainder of the discussion. Four historians have indicated their interest, and will be sent the RFP with a response deadline of May 21, 2010. Interviews will be held at the Commission meeting on June 4,

2010, with a decision made at the meeting. Discussion was held regarding interview questions and the timetable for completion of the project.

UPDATE ON DESIGNATION OF WRIGHT FARM AS A LA CROSSE COUNTY HISTORIC SITE

Vicki brought samples of plaques. Costs range from \$10 to \$20, including lettering. Discussion was held about doing plaques for all previously designated historic sites, or only those going forward. Vicki will check with the Finance Department about use of the publications budget.

UPDATE ON LA CROSSE COUNTY HISTORIC SITES PRESERVATION GRANT

One response was received so far, which requested only to remain on the mailing list for future grants. Discussion was held about the deadline for response, and to extend the deadline another month if necessary.

APPROVE PAYMENT OF MEMBERSHIP DUES

A list of dues owed was provided. **MOTION** by Sween/Mach to pay membership dues. **Motion carried unanimously.**

UPDATE ON COMMISSION'S WEBSITE

No further update.

REVIEW AND CONSIDER REVISIONS TO CHAPTER 22 OF COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES

Vicki reported that Corporation Counsel is still reviewing current language.

UPDATE ON NOMINATIONS / RESOLUTION PROCESS

No further update on the Iron Overhead Truss Bridge.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Interviews for Oehler Farm historian-researcher will be added. All other agenda items will remain except payment of membership dues and public hearing on the Palmer Lewis house,

NEXT MEETING

June 4, 2010.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Holley/Kooiman to Adjourn. **Motion carried unanimously.** Meeting adjourned at 9:54 a.m.

Disclaimer: The above minutes may be approved, amended or corrected at the next committee meeting. Margaret Norden, Recorder