

HISTORIC SITES PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Friday, May 6, 2011

Administrative Center – Room 3220

9:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vicki Twinde-Javner, King Holley (9:06), Barb Kooiman, Anne Loomis, Beverly Mach, Harriet Schuppel, Kent Sween

MEMBERS EXCUSED: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF & GUESTS: Margaret Norden, Ann Hundt, Arlene Schmidt, Jeanette Hammes, Norman Berg, Phyllis Berg, Linda Saley

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Twinde-Javner called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None requested.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 1, 2011

MOTION by Mach/Loomis to approve the Minutes from April 1, 2011. **Motion carried unanimously.** Holley excused.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE NOMINATION OF THE MIDDLE RIDGE SCHOOL AS A HISTORIC SITE IN LA CROSSE COUNTY

Chair Twinde-Javner opened the public hearing at 9:02 a.m. Bev Mach called upon the members of the Middle Ridge School group that were present to speak about the history of the school. Arlene Schmidt stated that she and 13 siblings attended school there, and it was where the oldest children learned to speak English. When the school needed teachers, the school board asked nuns to take over teaching, which created a unique situation of public-parochial cooperation. Ann Hundt and Jeanette Hammes stated their husband's attended school there. The Middle Ridge school and grounds are being faithfully restored. The Chair closed the public hearing at 9:09 a.m.

APPROVE THE MIDDLE RIDGE SCHOOL AS A HISTORIC SITE IN LA CROSSE COUNTY

MOTION by Mach/Loomis to approve the Middle Ridge School as a historic site in La Crosse County. **Motion carried unanimously.**

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE NOMINATION OF THE STRIPED SCHOOL AS A HISTORIC SITE IN LA CROSSE COUNTY

Chair Twinde-Javner opened the public hearing at 9:10 a.m. Phyllis and Norman Berg and Linda Saley gave comment on behalf of the nomination. Mrs. Berg was a teacher at the school, and the school is on land owned by the Bergs. Ms. Saley attended the school. The school has been at the same site since 1859. They are concerned about the nearby creek encroaching on the building, and would like to move the school to a concrete slab. They are working with the County Zoning Department on a variance. It is one of the oldest school structures in Burns Township. Barb Kooiman stated it could be the oldest existing schoolhouse in La Crosse County. The Chair closed the public hearing at 9:19 a.m.

APPROVE THE STRIPED SCHOOL AS A HISTORIC SITE IN LA CROSSE COUNTY

MOTION by Loomis/Schuppel to approve the Striped School as a historic site in La Crosse County. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Discussion was held regarding the resolution process that will take the two nominations to the Planning, Resources and Development Committee and the County Board for approval. Corporation Counsel will be asked to draft the resolutions.

UPDATE ON OEHLER FARM NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION

Barb Kooiman reported she would be arranging a meeting with the owner and her daughter the same day of the meeting and would hopefully be finalizing their agreement to proceed with a National Register nomination. She will update Joe De Rose with the Wisconsin Historical Society.

UPDATE ON NOMINATIONS / RESOLUTION PROCESS

- Iron Overhead Truss Bridge (tabled)

No further update.

UPDATE ON POSSIBLE NOMINATIONS / NOMINATION PROCESS

- Greenfield Town Hall
- Mindoro Cut
- Swarthout House
- Lake Neshonoc Dam & Powerhouse
- Stone Cellar in Town of Greenfield

Discussion was held regarding the Swarthout House and Lake Neshonoc Dam and Powerhouse; no further update.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- Approve County grant recipient (June)
- Discuss revisions to Chapter 22 of County Code of Ordinances (June)
- Resolutions regarding historic sites nominations (June-July)

NEXT MEETING: June 3, 2011

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Holley/Sween to adjourn. **Motion carried unanimously.** The meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Approved, June 3, 2011, Margaret Norden, Recorder