

December 12, 2016 Minutes

Fort Atkinson Historical Preservation Commission Meeting

Dwight Foster Library - Wisconsin Room

Meeting called to order on Monday, December 12, 6:30 p.m., at Dwight Foster Public Library by Commission Co-President Tammy Doellstedt

Also present: Commission members: Jenni Landowski, Jim Jorgenson, Julia Chady, Vern Zech

Absent: none

AGENDA:

1. Approval of December Minutes – Minutes approved.
2. Treasurer's Report –
 - A. Premier Water Tower Fund - \$6990.43.
 - B. Preservation City Budget- \$429.02, pending \$299.36; ending year balance: \$129.66

Old Business

3. Local Landmarks-
 - A. Water Tower
 1. There was one additional student tour in December. There was water on the stair landings and the group did not go outside at the top due to ice.
 2. Spring maintenance – in order to clean the stairs to determine level of rusting, water will be required. Vern will contact the Water Works in spring to try to organize.
 3. Tammy stated that the glass on the light fixtures is directional and needs to be replaced correctly (arrow pointing up to the tower).
4. Website/social media – June Smith house was demolished. There was a lot of discussion on social media, showing interest in historic preservation in the City. A lot of misinformation was involved. As City representatives we cannot provide opinions on social media discussions.
5. Kiosk poster – Julia shared the printed poster. Julia will look into how to mount it, which will be done at the end of April. She will also contact Jeff Armstrong or Scott Lastusky to ask about making the lighting work in the case. Julia will also send the image file to Jim, who will determine the best size for any smaller reprints.
6. Fort Atkinson Club – National Historic Register of Historic Places listing
 - A. Tammy attended the nomination meeting. The building was submitted for meeting historic relevance and for significant architectural style criteria. The listing was approved.
 - B. Joan Jones said they want to pursue Local Landmark status, as well. This could be the first new listing in 2017.
7. Code of Ordinances, Chapter 42

- A. We need to improve the Certificate of Appropriateness process by placing an expiration on the form.
- B. Julia contacted the Jefferson County Clerk of Courts office. There is a \$30 fee to add any paperwork to a deed. We will do this for 4 homes because there is money in our bank account to do this. It will likely be done in 2017, given that the end of year is in a couple of weeks.

New Business:

- 8. Tammy suggested that a committee be formed for doing ongoing work on the Ordinance and miscellaneous other items that don't get accomplished during the monthly meeting. The committee would meet perhaps once a month. The group agreed this is a good idea.
- 9. The group talked about attending Planning Commission meetings. We will try to look at the meeting agendas and try to have a representative attend when appropriate.
- 10. One of our main goals for 2017 is to increase the Commission presence and understanding of what we do. There should be clear differentiation between the Historical Society and the Historic Preservation Commission.
 - A. Jim suggested writing a press release for the newspaper to describe what we do.
 - B. Tammy suggested creating a small brochure with the same intent.
 - C. We could make a "Friends of Preservation" account for donations that could be used to create a grant to help people improve historic homes.
- 11. Potential new landmarks – Tammy shared there are 3 remaining pre-Civil War Greek Revival houses in town.
- 12. Eli Cloute purchased the building on Madison Avenue that was the original hospital. Julia said she spoke with him and he is not sure what he will do with it, but is intending to restore it.
- 13. Tammy met with someone through the Hoard Museum who is a public history major at Whitewater. She is looking to do 120 hours of volunteer work for her degree. The Hoard Museum is willing to give a percentage of her time to the Historic Preservation Commission. Items she could do:
 - A. digitize the Commission files.
 - B. Surveys for potential new listings
- 14. Tammy shared two newsletters from The WI Association of Historic Preservation Commissions.

Adjournment Motion to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Next meeting: Monday, January 9th, at 6:30 p.m. the Dwight Foster Public Library.

Minutes submitted by Jenni Landowski.

1/4/17