

June 6, 2017 6:00 p.m.
Public Hearing on Local Landmark Nomination
The Fort Atkinson Club
211 South Water Street East

1. Welcome and Introductions-Meeting called to order at 6:01. All five members of the FA Historic Preservation Commission were in attendance: Julia Chady, Tammy Doellstedt, Julian Ince, James Jorgenson, and Vern Zech. All members introduced themselves. Also Present: City Manager Matt Trebatoski, Fort Atkinson Club Director Renae Mitchell, and Joan and Milo Jones. Public Notification-Local media outlets, newspaper and radio, and all neighbors with 200 feet of the club were notified of the meeting. All government officials that require notice per Chapter 42 of City Ordinance code were notified. Notice was also posted in the minute's section of www.fortpreserves.org.
2. History of the FA Preservation Commission. The Commission was formed in 1998 as a direct response to State preservation Legislation. The members serve voluntarily, and are appointed to 5 year terms by the Fort Atkinson City Council.
3. Local landmark Process and Local Landmark Brochure: Local Landmark Nomination is a way for property owners to preserve the historic integrity of their property. Once listed as a local landmark, property owners agree to make no significant changes to the exterior of their building. All changes that would alter, detract or add to their exterior structure require a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Commission before alteration or demolition begins. Routine maintenance, such as painting, is allowed.
To this date, the commission has given Local Landmark status to 13 structures. All Local, State and National listed buildings are outlined in the walking tour brochure that has been published by the commission. Structures listed include the Panther Intaglio, 1901 Water Tower, Water Works 2 building, the Foster House, commercial and private residences.
4. Renae Mitchell gave details of the club's current activities as a community center. Joan Jones shared details of how she led the charge to save and renovate the club, including the forming of the nonprofit, Rock River Heritage.
5. History/Background of the Club. Julia Ince read a brief one page history of The Club, which was built in 1912, modeled on a Craftsman building at the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair. Charles Fitzgerald of Milwaukee, WI was the architect. The building served as a men's social club. To have a club of this sort was uncommon in a city the size of Fort Atkinson at that time. In 1930 the club was sold to the Billings Masonic fraternal organization. They were in the building until the 1990's. The building was empty until Joan Jones bought it from Doug Erdman in 2009, and began preservation efforts. The history was compiled from the 50 plus page National Register listing application, filed by Carol Cartwright. The Club was nominated for Social and Architectural Significance.
6. Tammy Doellstedt presented the 3 page application for nomination. All members of the city council will receive a copy.
7. Public Comments called for 3 times: None
8. Nomination Vote: Motion brought by Vern Zech to approve the Local Landmark Nomination of the The Fort Atkinson Club. Motion seconded by James Jorgenson. Motion passed on unanimous voice vote 5-0.
9. Next Steps- The City Council will vote on the nomination at their June 20, 2017 meeting. If approved, the building will be listed as a Local Landmark building with the Register of Deeds, and a plaque will be provided highlighting the Local Landmark status.
10. Meeting adjourned at 6:25

11. Building Tours-Renae gave tours of The Fort Atkinson Club to interested parties.