

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Time and Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2013, at 4:00 p.m. in the Birch Room of Wausau City Hall
Members Present: Gisselman (C), Forer, Lamansky, Tryczak, Bahr
Others Present: Lenz, Woller, Engen

In compliance with Chapter 19, Wisconsin Statutes, notice of this meeting was posted and transmitted to the *Wausau Daily Herald* in the proper manner.

Chairperson Gisselman called the meeting to order at approximately 4:00 p.m. stating that a quorum was present.

Approve minutes of the December 19, 2012, January 30, 2013, February 27, 2013, and March 13, 2013 meetings

Bahr moved to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2012, January 30, 2013, February 27, 2013 and March 13, 2013 meetings. Forer seconded and the motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Discuss Marathon County Historical Society Signage

Matthew Woller, Graphic House, said that two new signs structures will be placed on the property. The first will be a single-faced sign mounted flush to the building of the north elevation facing towards 5th Street. A 3-line digital message center will be located on the signs. The double-faced monument sign will be located on the south side of the property between the building and McIndoe Street. The double-faced monument sign will take the place of the existing monument sign. The existing structure will not be used and will be excavated out. The current location will be used within a foot or two. Currently, there isn't a sign located on the north elevation. The uniqueness of the property, the sign on the back will be for 5th Street traffic and the double-faced monument sign will be for traffic traveling east and west on McIndoe Street. The monument is not be visible from 5th Street, unless people turn east onto McIndoe Street from 5th Street. The message center will be 3-line, single color, with no graphics, and will be text based. The sign cabinets will be internally illuminated, but not full not shine through.

Gisselman asked what materials will be used. Woller said the LED lighting will be used, the cabinet will be constructed with aluminum, and painted with Matthews sign paint. In the middle portion of the monument sign, colors will be matched and decorative vinyl will be used to bring the building to the sign. The shape will match the arch to the main entrance. Gisselman asked what the base will be constructed with. Woller answered aluminum.

Lenz asked if the head of the monument sign would be illuminated internally. Woller answered yes. Forer asked if a timer could be used. Woller answered that could be worked out with the electrician. Lenz asked if the current sign is illuminated. Woller answered that is lighted externally. Forer added that the current sign is not on a timer.

Gisselman said that this is strictly advisory and will go to Plan Commission and Common Council.

Lenz said that the property is zoned residential and signs are strictly regulated, which is why it will need to come to Plan Commission for a conditional use. The Plan Commission will discuss particular conditions in regards to the message center with flashing lights, graphics, and particular content on the message center. It is always good to hear any feedback.

Gisselman said the sign on the north side of the building does not have an extended arch. Woller said Gisselman was correct and that was done because that the arch is not as prevalent on that side of the building and also to help control the cost. The arch is prevalent on the main side of the building.

Bahr said that it is a great sign, a nice touch, and likes the idea of the message center. The commission members discussed the voting process since both Gisselman and Forer are employees of the Marathon County Historical Society and it was agreed that they both could vote on the item.

Tryczak motioned to recommend approval of the sign to Plan Commission. Bahr seconded and the motion carried unanimously 5-0. This item will go to Plan Commission on April 24, 2013.

Consider designating the Easthill Residential Historic District as a Class II Local Historic District

Gisselman said the minutes of the public hearing for the Easthill Residential Historic District were included in the packet, which was held on February 27, 2013. No one came forward to speak to the issue, but two people were at the meeting that chose not to speak. After the meeting, they said that they were in favor of the designation. Gisselman said that the map was revised with boundaries of the national district and was sent with the public hearing notice. Since there was not a quorum at the public hearing, the vote was held off.

Lemansky motioned to designate the Easthill Residential Historic District as a Class II Local Historic District. Forer seconded, and the motion carried unanimously 5-0. This item will go to Plan Commission on April 24, 2013.

Landmark / Building – Watch Updates

Gisselman said on 1st Avenue and Bridge Street, the Mortenson building is gone and CVS is coming in.

Forer asked about the Underwood Chapel as she has seen lights on in the building. Lenz said he would speak to Hebert about that. Gisselman said he hadn't heard anything.

Lenz said that timber has been saved from the former Stone's site and stored. Some other artifacts were found, such as the sign for Mortenson Lumber Co. and they have been saved and stored, as well.

Gisselman said that the commission should start to think about new potential landmarks or other buildings that can be discussed during the next meetings.

Discuss activities for National Preservation Month and beyond

Gisselman said that he would like to show a PowerPoint presentation of historic structures in the Andrew Warrens and Easthill Residential Historic Districts to the Common Council in May. It would be a good time to show the things that the commission has done within the last year. Forer said the presentation would be a good idea. Lenz asked if photos are already available or if new ones need to be taken. Gisselman answered that new photos could potentially be taken.

Gisselman said that on May 19, there is a Historic Walking and Fire Tour of downtown Wausau at 11:00 with reenactments of famous fires that happened. Lemansky added that she will be taking part in it.

Adjournment

Bahr motioned to adjourn. Lemansky seconded. Motion carried unanimously 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Historic Preservation Commission
March 27, 2013 — Page 3

Respectfully Submitted,
Gary Gisselman, Chair

2013HPCmin3.27