



## Landmarks Committee

Whitewater Municipal Building Community Room,  
312 West Whitewater St., Whitewater, WI 53190  
\*In Person and Virtual

**Thursday, October 05, 2023 - 6:00 PM**

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**Citizens are welcome (and encouraged) to join our webinar via computer, smart phone, or telephone.  
Citizen participation is welcome during topic discussion periods.**

Please join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone via the link below:  
**<https://meet.goto.com/924791741>**

You can also dial in using your phone.  
Access Code: **924-791-741**  
United States: **+1 (872) 240-3412**

Please note that although every effort will be made to provide for virtual participation, unforeseen technical difficulties may prevent this, in which case the meeting may still proceed as long as there is a quorum. Should you wish to make a comment in this situation, you are welcome to call this number: (262) 473-0108.

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### **\*\* EMERGENCY RE-AMENDED \*\* AGENDA**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

- Ben Adamitus called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

#### **ROLL CALL**

- Present: Olm, Richardson, Schreiber, Adamitus
- Absent: Weigel
- Others Present: Staff Representative Ben Kloskey, Gloria Buley, Geri Kratz

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

*Items on the Consent Agenda will be approved together unless any committee member requests that an item be removed for individual consideration.*

**1.) Approval of Agenda**

**2.) Approval of the Minutes of September 7, 2023**

**3.) Set date of next meeting: November 2, 2023**

- **Motion to approve** made by Schreiber, seconded by Olm.

- **Unanimously approved** by voice vote, Adamitus abstained as he was not at the September meeting.

a. Richardson asked if he can alter tonight's agenda, Schreiber and Adamitus clarified the process for amending the agenda. No amendments were made at this time.

## HEARING OF CITIZEN COMMENTS

*No formal Committee action will be taken during this meeting although issues raised may become a part of a future agenda. Participants are allotted a three minute speaking period. Specific items listed on the agenda may not be discussed at this time; however, citizens are invited to speak to those specific issues at the time the Committee discusses that particular item.*

***To make a comment during this period, or during any agenda item: On a computer or handheld device, locate the controls on your computer to raise your hand. You may need to move your mouse to see these controls. On a traditional telephone, dial \*6 to unmute your phone and dial \*9 to raise your hand.***

- A. Gloria Buley asked if the back-porch situation at the Hamilton House can be addressed at the next meeting. She was assured it would be by all members.

## OLD BUSINESS

### 1.) Territorial Oak: Current Condition and Future Plans

- a. Richardson stated that he went to previous Urban Forestry Commission Meeting, and expressed at the meeting that the Territorial Oak Situation is important to the Landmarks Commission, Walworth County Historical Society, and the Whitewater Historical Society. All entities want to be updated on matters regarding the tree moving forward.
- b. Richardson said there was interest expressed at the UFC to potentially use old parts of the tree as benches, and to replace the old tree with a new oak, but previous attempts at a new tree have failed to take hold.
- c. Olm added that the Arboretum club wants to use old parts of the tree to memorialize the oak at their space at Starin Park.
- d. Richardson said Brian Neumeister claimed they were waiting on a quote for how much the tree will cost to bring down. The whole tree will have to go for safety reasons, but the placards will remain.

## NEW BUSINESS

### 1.) Delta Zeta Sorority House Upgrade Requests

- a. Geri Kratz of Delta Zeta sorority upgraded to new commercial locks on the back/side doors of the building previously. Requesting a new smart and keyless lock for the front door.

- **Motion to Approve** made by Schreiber, seconded by Richardson.

- **Unanimously approved** via roll call.

### 2.) Farewell Event for the Territorial Oak

- a. Richardson claimed that the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War memorialized the "mustered tree" burr oak in Delavan with a group photo of them with the tree. Richardson suggested we could do something similar, and the group agreed.

b. Olm asked if there were any other groups interested in a combined farewell event. Adamitus followed up by asking if it was safe to have an event by the oak, to which Olm responded with "No." and asserted that the oak is on private property. The reasoning for the safety concern is because the tree is located right on the corner of W Main St. and Franklin St., which makes traffic and space for people to congregate an issue.

c. Buley suggested selling the branches as a fundraiser, and Olm was said it was a good idea.

d. Adamitus said that the Landmarks Commission will have a presence at the next UFC meeting.

### 3.) Digitization

a. Adamitus said no progress has been made.

### 4.) Landmarks City Website Updates

a. Olm sending links to get the website updated by Staff Rep. Kloskey.

b. Adamitus asked to keep the Commission updated as progress is made.

c. Schreiber requested that his address be updated.

### 5.) Thank You Notes for Landmark Hotel and Hamilton House

a. Thank you notes to be sent to Landmarks Hotel, Hamilton House, and Delta Zeta Sorority.

- **Motion to approve** by Schreiber, seconded by Olm.

- **Unanimous approval** by roll call.

### 6.) Water Tower Situation & Signage

a. Richardson said the signage is damaged and wanted to know if the city is doing anything about it.

b. Adamitus said he would reach out to relevant departments at the city to find out.

c. Schreiber added there was no update given about the tower from the Finance Committee. He also said he would reach out to the City Manager.

### 7.) 312 Elkhorn Rd. Telecommunications Tower – Invitation to Comment

a. Kloskey explained the letter to the group.

b. Richardson said the tower will affect the city skyline, but this is normal to happen over time.

c. No official comments.

**CONSIDERATIONS / DISCUSSIONS / REPORTS****1.) Report from the Friends of the Effigy Mounds**

- a. Olm said a small group of people attended, and the meeting went very well. He added that the next meeting should be scheduled soon, but he is still waiting on Bill Quackenbush to arrive in November.
- b. There is an informational seminar on Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> hosted by Amy Rosebrough at the library.
- c. Adamitus asked Kloskey to ask if there will be an issue if the Landmarks Commission has a quorum at that meeting.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Suggested future agenda items: Back porch of Hamilton House renovation, thank you note to City for efforts with the mounds, Water tower situation, Birge Fountain fundraising, DZ shed and other changes, Potential orientation for new members

**ADJOURNMENT**

- Adamitus adjourned the meeting at 6:57 p.m.

A quorum of the Common Council may be present. This notice is given to inform the public that no formal action will be taken at this meeting.

**Anyone requiring special arrangements is asked to call the Office of the City Manager / City Clerk (262-473-0102) at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.**

Respectfully submitted,

Ben Kloskey, Staff Representative