



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes - Final

Heritage Preservation Commission

Thursday, June 21, 2018

6:00 PM

3rd Floor Conference Room

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:04pm.

Present: 5 - Charles Clemence, Terence R. Collins, Jessica Olson, Chris Kahlow, Daniel Manke

Excused: 1 - Ariel Beaujot

Absent: 1 - David Riel

Others Present.
Roald Gundersen
Estella Swan
Derrick Knight
Alex Vaver
Brent Hanifl
Dave Clements
Abbie Leithold
Terry Bauer
Barbara Kooiman

Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of the May 15, 2018 Meeting Minutes.

Terry Collins moved to approve the minutes. Charles Clemence seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Agenda Items:

2. [18-0908](#)

Discussion and feedback on the proposed shell over the Wendell Anderson Bandstand located in Riverside Park.

Charles Clemence moved to open a public hearing. Dan Manke seconded. The motion passed 5-0. Dave Clements spoke on behalf of a consortium of organizations that includes Rotary Lights, Moon Tunes, Jazz Fest, La Crosse Concert Band, and others who are proposing a band shell over the existing bandstand. He stated that the proposed band shell would be a wood structure using unmilled logs that would tie into La Crosse's logging history. He stated that a wood structure would be better than a stone or steel structure and feels that it would compliment the park and Downtown. It would be beneficial for musicians and weddings and would have copper roof that would be low maintenance. He also stated that they have raised approximately 20% of the \$500,000 goal. Jessica Olson asked if this project was separate from the bandstand renovation that had been brought to the Commission back in February. Dave Clements stated that this was a separate project. Roald Gundersen stated that the band shell is intended to protect the people on stage and to make acoustics more effective for the musicians to project to the audience. The truss design mimics the design of La Crosse's blue bridges. He also stated that wood structures last longer and that the design does match the Art Deco Style of the bandstand. They did not want to touch the existing stone of the bandstand so the design calls for installation into new masonry pillars around it. Terry Collins asked if the local musicians were on board with the project. Derrick Knight stated that the La Crosse Concert Band is on board and that a professional was hired to enhance the acoustics of the structure to make sure it was the best for the project. Terry Bauer then stated that the intent at this meeting was to present their vision to the Commission in order to get feedback so they can revise their plans if needed and resubmit for final approval. Dave Clements stated that they already raised \$100,000 of the \$500,000 needed. They will not be asking for any City money and then gift the bandshell to the City. Jessica Olson asked what the maintenance requirements were and what was the lifespan of the materials. Roald Gundersen stated the intent was to gift the structure with low maintenance requirements. The roof will last 40-50 years. The underside will be wood as it is the best for acoustics. The fascia, posts, and beams will be rot resistant wood that will need maintenance every 10 years or so. Because it will be unmilled wood it will last longer. The consortium is looking to build funding for maintenance cycles into its donation. Dan Manke asked if the copper will be sealed or left to patina. Roald Gundersen stated that had not been determined yet. Charles Clemence asked if the footings would disturb the bandstand structure. Terry Bauer stated that it would not as it would be incorporated into the its restoration. Barbara Kooiman asked if the timbers would touch the bandstand structure at all. Roald Gundersen stated that it would not. It would essentially be a separate structure. Additionally, the restoration of the bandstand would clean up the rear of the structure and the bandshell would protect that work. Chris Kahlow moved to close the public hearing. Terry Collins seconded. The motion passed 5-0. Chris Kahlow stated that she is 100% supporting the project and the plan and that she can't think of anything better and loves the tie in to the bridges and logging history. She also stated that was responsible for its original nomination and thanked the group for all of their hard work. Staff stated that this item will be on the July agenda for final review and action on the plans.

3. Update and possible action on the Architectural and Historic Intensive Survey Project- Barbara Kooiman.

Barbara Kooiman provided a draft of the survey to the Commission and stated that she emailed a copy to staff. She stated that she is following the process and format required by the Wisconsin Historical Society. Still needs to finish some formatting and input data. VasT majority of the input is for updating the previous survey. The report is close to a final document and can have it for the Commission by the week before their July meeting. Data entry is limited by the WHS as they only are granting limited windows before you have to request again. Dan Manke stated that the timeline was the same answer that was given back in October. Jessica Olson stated that she would like staff to consult with the Legal Department on options for the Commission to pursue at the next meeting as she considers the length of time that has taken place a breach of contract. Barbara Kooiman asked if she could pursue finishing the project while the Commission was looking into its legal options. Jessica Olson said yes she could. Staff asked if the report would be an addendum to the previous reports. Barbara Kooiman stated that she intended it to be a stand alone report.

4. Discussion on Code Enforcement of locally designated historic properties and historically significant properties.

Chris Kahlow stated her concern of deferred maintenance on historic properties and then the deteriorated condition is used as an excuse to get a demolition permit. She also stated that it was hard to call the City and file a complaint on its condition as she was worried about the City then determining that it should be torn down. She then asked how the Commission could work with the Inspection's Department to help enforce code consistently particularly from applicants who have had their application for demolition of a historic structure denied and then stated that they would just let it sit there and rot. How can the Commission work with the City to avoid this scenario? Jessica Olson stated that she would be worried about the effect it would have on historic preservation if they were being too hard on people. Chris Kahlow stated that the City has overlay districts and standards and if that cant protect our historic structures what is the Commission doing. Dan Manke suggested that Dave Reinhart from the Inspection's Department be invited to a future meeting to discuss. The August meeting was preferred by the Commission to invite Dave Reinhart.

5. 2018 Code of Ethics.

Jessica Olson confirmed that the Commissioners had read and reviewed the 2018 Code of Ethics.

Adjournment

Terry Collins moved to adjourn the meeting. Charles Clemence seconded. The motion passed 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:07pm.

Notice is further given that members of other governmental bodies may be present at the above scheduled meeting to gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibility.

NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY

Requests from persons with a disability who need assistance to participate in this meeting should call the City Clerk's office at (608) 789-7510 or send an email to ADAcityclerk@cityoflacrosse.org, with as much advance notice as possible.