

Historic Preservation Commission  
October 27, 2011

Meeting called to order by Thomson at 6:14 p.m. Present: Helen Thomson, Joe Hoenecke, Arline Hoenecke, Mike Wicinsky; also present: Kathy Grace

Public participation: Kathy reported that Rick Bernstein, field representative from the Wisconsin Historical Society contacted her in regards to the Augustin Grignon Hotel in Butte des Morts. The hotel is the only building in the Winneconne School District that is on the National Register of Historic Places. It was added to that list in 1975. Kathy shared some pictures of the condition of the building at the time of adding to the list and the condition of the building today.

**Committee communication:** At the July meeting the commission agreed to mail packets regarding the bridge to various people and agencies. It was also decided to make copies of the packets for all village board members so they could see the signatures and know what the commission is doing. Helen expressed dismay that a commission member (without the backing of the commission) decided to have this placed on the Village Board agenda and force a vote from the Village Board. This was never discussed at the commission meetings and no one on the commission except the village board representatives were aware that this would be on the village board agenda. Helen felt blindsided when she was called by Monica Wicinsky for a quote regarding the village board vote and was not even aware that it was up for discussion at the board meeting. The timing of this vote could be seen as detrimental to the efforts being set forth by the commission. At the very least the commission could have had people at the meeting to talk in favor of rehabilitation and restoration. Helen asked that all future actions of the commission members have the consensus of the whole commission.

**Bridge** – Motion was made by Joe and seconded by Helen to reimburse Kathy Grace for the mailing of the petition. The motion passed and Kathy gave Helen the receipts for the mailings to submit to Jaci for reimbursement.

Communication was shared from various agencies that have responded to the mailing of the agendas.

Because there has been no new communication from the DOT regarding the bridge pending the aquaculture studies by the DNR the commission decided to hang back at the present time to see what transpires.

The Commission will still pursue getting a copy of the Historical and Archaeological Study done by the Great Lakes Research Center. Kathy talked to Rick Bernstein at the annual conference and he gave her a contact person at the Wisconsin Historical Society.

Motion was made by Helen and seconded by Joe to have a letter to the editor put in the Winneconne News explaining that the petitions have been mailed to the various people. Kathy will compose the letter and get approval before submitting to the newspaper.

**Annual conference** – Helen and Kathy attended the annual local history and historic preservation conference in Stevens Point in September.

**CLG** – At the conference Helen attended a session regarding training for commission members and CLG's (Certified Local Governments) were mentioned. This was a goal set in previous years that had taken a back seat to the bridge project. Enacting of the historic preservation ordinance and creation of a local register were steps 1 and 2 in getting this designation. Designation as a CLG would enable the Village to be eligible for grant money from the US Department of the Interior. Helen will contact the state to find out what the next steps will be and come back with this information at the next meeting.

In conjunction with this Kathy suggested that we ask the village if we can add a page to the website regarding sites in the Local Register. There are only 2, possibly include a picture, date of addition to the register and a brief description. Kathy will follow through on this.

According to the ordinance the village is the keeper of the records for the commission so Helen will be asking Steve regarding getting file space for Commission materials so they aren't stored at member's homes.

**Planning for 2012** – Kathy suggested that we work on expanding the local register to include residential sites. It was decided to compile a letter (much like done for the churches) and along with a copy of the ordinance and an application send it to the Hartzheims (Merritt White house), Biggars (Sears house), and Harmons (cottage at the County Children's Home). Kathy will find the letter sent to the churches and send a copy via email to the commission members. The letter will be discussed and finalized at the next meeting. Because of the holidays it was decided not to send anything until after the first of the year.

Erie Landmarks will be contacted regarding a quote for a plaque for the bridge.

**Plan for May 2012 – Historic Preservation Month** – Kathy suggested that something be done in conjunction with the historic society in regards to the Civil War. Showcase the homes still standing that were here during the Civil War? Joe suggested a trivia contest? (Mike agreed to help on this idea). Use the newspaper to make people aware of historic buildings. More discussion at the next meeting.

**Presentation by John Gremmer** – Mr. Gremmer did not attend the meeting.

The next meeting was set for Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.

Motion by Arline, second by Joe to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.