

City of Racine

*City Hall
730 Washington Ave.
Racine, WI 53403*



Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 6, 2007

4:30 PM

Room 209

Landmarks Preservation Commission

*Chairman Mary Whitman
Alderman Robert Anderson
Geoff Greiveldinger
Robert Hartmann
Don Rintz
Sally Sorenson
Paul Zens*

Acting Chairman Bob Hartmann called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.

PRESENT: 4 - Robert Anderson, Geoff Greiveldinger, Robert Hartmann and Don Rintz

EXCUSED: 3 - Mary Whitman, Sally Sorenson and Paul Zens

*OTHERS PRESENT: Brian F. O'Connell, Director of City Development
Matthew G. Sadowski, Principal Planner*

Approval of Minutes for the June 4 & July 2, 2007 Meeting

A motion was made by Alderman Robert Anderson, seconded by Don Rintz, that the minutes be approved, as distributed. The motion PASSED.

Correspondence

None.

Buildings being Razed

Don Rintz reported on razing permits for 1600 Racine Street, 1331 Washington Avenue, 1146 Villas Street, 1712 N. Main Street, 2004 N. Main and 810 S. Main. He requested that the buildings at 1146, 1712, 2004, and 810 be photographed.

07-0817

Subject: Communication from the 4th District Alderman requesting the two (2) civil war cannons rightfully be returned to Monument Square.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on 7-9-07:
The item be deferred.

Recommendation of the Board of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services 7-11-07: That the request be deferred.

Recommendation of the Landmarks Preservation Commission on 08-06-07: That the two civil war cannons not be returned to Monument Square. Further that in consultation with the appropriate City authority, the matter be scheduled for discussion at a future Landmarks Preservation Commission meeting to determine an appropriate location for the two (2) civil war cannons.

Recommendation of the Boards of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services 08-08-07: That the cannons be reinstated to their proper place at Monument Square flanking the monument.

Fiscal Note: Design fee to be determined.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on 08-27-07: The item to be received and filed to allow the Council to address the issue.

Fiscal Note: N/A

Attachments: [DOC070623cannon](#)

Chairman Hartmann stated that while it is good that the cannons stay in Racine, it may not be necessary for them to be returned to Monument Square given the squares new design.

Don Rintz stated that he is not aware of the National Register nomination for Monument Square including the cannons.

It was the consensus of Commission members that a more appropriate and fitting location could be identified in light of new design of Monument Square. Some potential location were mentioned such as Mound Cemetery or somewhere in the location of Camp Utley.

A motion was made by Geoff Greiveldinger, seconded by Don Rintz, that this item be Recommended For Denial. The motion PASSED.

New Business

[07-1016](#)

Subject: Consideration of the designation of a Racine Historic District encompassing certain properties in the 1100 blocks of Lake Avenue and South Main Street, and the 100 block of Twelfth Street.

Recommendation of the Landmarks Preservation Committee on 7-2-07: That this item be deferred.

Recommendation of the Landmarks Preservation Committee on 8-6-07: That an H-Historic properties District be established for certain properties in the area of 11th Street and Lake Avenue.

Further that this item be referred to the Plan Commission for a public hearing to consider a rezoning to establish an H-Historic Properties District.

Fiscal Note: N/A

Principal Planner Sadowski summarized past Commission activity with this item.

Shea Leech, 1121 Lake Avenue stated that she was opposed to her property being included in the historic district. She expressed concern with the ability to develop excess lands on her property and added regulatory oversight.

Wallace Hepkema of 107 Twelfth Street (a contributing property within the proposed district) expressed support for the district as well as the expansion of its boundaries.

Director Brian O'Connell explained the logistical reasons for the limited boundaries of the district. He stated that working through the district designation process for this first time

will help identify procedural issues that can be addressed when future designations are brought forward. In response to Bob Hartmann, Director O'Connell explained that if the Commission wishes to expand the proposed boundaries, then this request should be received and filed, and research begun for the expanded boundaries. He explained that a new public hearing before the Commission would be required.

Principal Planner Matthew Sadowski distributed maps illustrating the boundaries of the existing National Register Southside Historic District and their relation to the currently proposed district boundaries.

Don Rintz stressed the need to name the district so as not to conflict with the existing name of the Southside Historic District. Director O'Connell suggested as a name the "11th and Lake Sub district"; Commission voiced no objections.

Alderman Robert Anderson stressed that development can happen that is appropriate to the character to the district.

Director O'Connell further explained that to express what form of development would be appropriate is difficult due to a myriad of factors that can impact review of development proposals. He stated two base standards to use when evaluating a development proposal would be to preserve existing historical assets, and make sure that development is compatible to those assets.

A motion was made by Robert Anderson, seconded by Don Rintz, that this item be Recommended For Further Consideration by the City Plan Commission., as outlined in the recommendation The motion PASSED.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Geoff Greiveldinger to adjourn the meeting. Hearing no objections, Chairman Hartmann adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Matthew G. Sadowski,
Principal Planner, Secretary*