



# City of Racine

City Hall  
730 Washington Ave.  
Racine, WI 53403  
www.cityofracine.org

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### Landmarks Preservation Commission

*Chris Flynn*  
*Tony Veranth*  
*Don Schumacher*  
*Aldersperson Mollie Jones*  
*Pippin Michelli*

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Monday, February 13, 2017

5:00 PM

City Hall, Room 303

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#### Call To Order

*Ald. Jones presumed chair of the meeting. Ald. Jones called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.*

**PRESENT:** 4 - Chris Flynn, Don Schumacher, Mollie Jones and John Monefeldt

**EXCUSED:** 2 - Tony Veranth and Pippin Michelli

Others present:

*Matt Sadowski, Assistant Director/Principal Planner*  
*Michelle Cook, Secretary of City Development*

#### Approval of Minutes for the December 12, 2016 Meeting

**A motion was made by Commissioner Flynn, seconded by Commissioner Schumacher, to approve the minutes of the December 12th meeting. The motion PASSED by a Voice Vote.**

[131-17](#)

**Subject:** (Direct Referral) Review and consideration of pending razing permits and potential Commission actions.

*Ald. Jones asked about the raze order at 1125 Center Street and whether there is a timeframe can be extended once permission for razing has been granted.*

*Assistant Director/Principal Planner Sadowski stated it can be up to six months until the property is razed. Commissioner Schumacher noted that he has seen properties noticed to be razed that have not been.*

*Discussion ensued regarding other properties with raze orders that have not yet been demolished.*

[0972-16](#)

**Subject:** (Direct Referral) Consideration of a request to designate College Avenue, from 14th Street to DeKoven Avenue, as a historic artifact. (Res No. 0111-17)

**Recommendation of the Landmarks Preservation Commission on 3-13-17:** That the request for a historic artifact designation of College Avenue, from 14th Street be set aside at this time and instead,

Resolutoin No. 8816 of June 7, 1983 be replaced with the attached resolution as amended by the Landmarks Preservation Commission on 3-13-17.

**Fiscal Note:** N/A

Attachments:     [College Avenue Historic Artifact](#)  
                          [DRAFT COLLEGE AVE RESOLUTION](#)

*Assistant Director Sadowski reintroduced the item into the Commission. He stated he has a meeting set up this week with Public Works, Building, Water, and Parks Departments to discuss the possibility of adding language to a potential resolution or whether a designation as a Historic Artifact would be more appropriate.*

*Commissioner Monefeldt and Assistant Director Sadowski explained the options: no changes to the current resolution, revising the current resolution, creating a Racine Artifact, or designate College Avenue between 14th Street and Junction Avenue as a Local Historic District.*

*Discussion ensued about the financial responsibility of maintaining the bricks.*

*Commissioner Schumacher expressed concern with putting the financial burden on the people who live on the College Avenue as a possibility with the resolution; Racine Artifacts do not have an associated cost burden.*

*Commissioner Monefeldt stated revising the resolution to include \$5000.00 wouldn't be well received.*

*Assistant Director Sadowski explained the different funding agencies and their possible offerings. He proposed that the language should keep options open for outside and internal funding. He discussed the possibility of establishing a Neighborhood Improvement District which would have a budget and in control of the funds; owners pay extra taxes, but could use the funds for any neighborhood improvement they would see fit, e.g. decorative lighting, furniture, and the maintenance of the bricks.*

*Ald. Jones researched Delevan regarding their designation on the registry. She stated they received a grant of \$800,000 from the State of Wisconsin to redo their bricks. Another community in Rock Island, Illinois has strict resolution language to preserve their brick streets.*

*Assistant Director Sadowski asked if the Commission had problems with plowing and the possible damage caused to the street. Commissioners stated that DPW makes accommodations with the way they plow and sweep the streets.*

*Commissioners stated the main concern with the residences of College Avenue is maintaining and preserving their brick street.*

*Commissioner Monefeldt suggested the city and the tax payers share responsibility when it comes to the cost of preserving historic districts, streets, homes, etc... He discussed the possibility of setting aside a portion of citizen tax payments for historic preservation.*

**A motion was made by Commissioner Monefeldt, seconded by Commissioner Flynn, to defer the item to the March meeting. The motion PASSED by a Voice**

**Vote.**

[132-17](#)

**Subject:** (Direct Referral) Consideration of local and/or national historic district or landmark designations for areas in and adjacent to Machinery Row.

*Assistant Director Sadowski introduced the item. He stated staff is looking at the RootWorks area and the abundance of historic character in the district. He explained the general area of the request which includes the Case Plow Works building (615 S. Marquette), the Case building, the church on the corner of Superior Street and State Street, Dania Hall on the corner of Marquette and State Streets, the current Merchants building and others.*

*Assistant Director Sadowski stated there are a few options for a proposed historic district: it could be a large industrial/worker district; a JI Case district to include the blue area on the attached; or the Western Publishing Golden Books district which would include smaller areas.*

*Assistant Director Sadowski asked what would be Commissioners preference, which would they support.*

*Discussion ensued.*

*Assistant Director Sadowski explained to the Commission that there were two options: (1) Leave the item open until the consultant has information to report – reviewed and support for a compact district to include the old western publishing and (2) Use the yellow however include the vacant land to the west to follow the river.*

*Assistant Director Sadowski stated we will keep item open on the agenda. Commissioners voiced support for the Western Publishing Golden Books district to include the boat storage area.*

**A motion was made by Commissioner Schumacher, seconded by Commissioner Flynn to defer this item until a report is received by the preservation consultant. The motion was PASSED by a Voice Vote.**

## Adjournment

**There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.**