



City of Racine

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Landmarks Preservation Commission

John Monefeldt
Chris Flynn
Tony Veranth
Don Schumacher
Aldersperson Mollie Jones

Monday, November 14, 2016

5:00 PM

City Hall, Room 303

Call To Order

PRESENT: 4 - Chris Flynn, Tony Veranth, Don Schumacher and Mollie Jones

Others Present:

Commissioner John Monefeldt (not listed in the attendance)
Matt Sadowski, Assistant Director/Principal Planner
Michelle Cook, Administrative Assistant
Steven Madsen, Assistant Planner

Approval of Minutes for the October 10, 2016 Meeting

Note: The approval of the minutes took place after the public hearing.

A motion was made by Alder. Jones, seconded by Commissioner Schumacher, to approve the minutes of the October 10th meeting, as distributed. The motion PASSED by a Voice Vote.

5:00 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING

[0972-16](#)

Subject: (Direct Referral) Consideration of a request to designate College Avenue, from 14th Street to DeKoven Avenue, as a historic artifact.

Attachments: [College Avenue Historic Artifact](#)

Chairman Veranth opened the public hearing at 5:00 p.m.

Commissioner Schumacher briefly explained is application. He stated that College Avenue was the last remaining all brick street in the City.

Chairman Veranth invited members of the audience to speak on the request.

Mark Yehlen, Director of Public Works and Services, stated he feels the designation of the College Avenue brick street as a landmark is unnecessary and might create a burden to City staff. He stated his department is working under the current resolution in place (#8861 of June 7, 1983; attached to this item) which requires the street to be maintained in its current condition. He stated there is an understanding that College Avenue is not treated like any other city street.

Michael McShane, 1715 College Avenue asked what it would mean to have a street designated as an artifact.

Assistant Director/Principal Planner Matthew Sadowski explained that if designated, a hearing would have to be held in front of the Common Council in order for any alteration or demolition to the street to take place.

Mr. McShane expressed his admiration of the bricks. He stated that the possibility of them being torn is heartbreaking and he would hate to see them destroyed. He is in favor of the designation.

Janet Carter, 1742 Wisconsin Avenue stated the bricks were on the brink of being destroyed this past summer and that it would be risky to not designate them. She stated anything to preserve the College Avenue brick street would be advantageous.

Pippin Micheli, 1608 S. Main Street stated that the extra protection of the College Avenue bricks would be beneficial. She stated that the street is a tourist attraction and is important to keep.

John Sharpe, 1842 College Avenue, stated the beauty and attraction of the bricks add value and that a brick road is stronger than concrete.

Chairman Veranth closed the public hearing at 5:21 p.m.

Assistant Director Sadowski explained the responsibilities of the Commission regarding artifact designation. If the street is designated and repairs are needed, Commission members would be required to be available and act within 72 hours of notification. He stated if the street is not designated, city staff would still be required to document with photographs, etc... regarding needed repairs of the street; however repairs can be made without Commission action.

Chairman Veranth asked if extra verbiage can be added to the current resolution regarding maintenance and emergency work.

Commissioner Monefeldt expressed concern that the current resolution does not state to replace like with like. He stated he feels that the street is not being maintained.

Assistant Director Sadowski stated to the Commission that expanding on the current resolution is an option.

Commissioner Schumacher stated he felt that designation of College Avenue is needed.

Further discussion ensued.

Assistant Director Sadowski stated that he would work with Mr. Yehlen to prepare language expanding on the current resolution for the December 12th Landmarks Preservation Commission meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Monefeldt, seconded by Commissioner Schumacher, to defer action on this item to the December 12th meeting to allow time to prepare language expanding on the current resolution. The motion PASSED by a Voice Vote.

END OF PUBLIC HEARING

Chairman Veranth closed the public hearing at 5:21 p.m.

[0973-16](#)

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

Commission members agreed there were no properties to document or photograph.

Administrative Business

Historic Districts Markers

Assistant Director Sadowski introduced Steven Madsen, Assistant Planner for the Department of City Development.

Mr. Madsen utilized Power Point to explain this item. He stated 5 historic districts were being considered for markers: and displayed an example of what we currently have.

Assistant Director Sadowski stated Mr. Madsen was working on text for the signs and will present that at the December 12th meeting.

Updates and Discussions:

Assistant Director Sadowski stated that the grant applications were filed with the State of Wisconsin Historical Society. He stated that he is waiting on a second bid of services and he has already received one to designate three houses for \$24,099. The max the state will grant is \$25,000. Assistant Director Sadowski stated he did not prepare a grant request for the Preservation Ordinance as the State expressed that the request would not get funded and that funds were already set aside in the City Development budget for 2017.

Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting adjourned on a motion by Commissioner Schumacher and seconded by Commissioner Monefeldt.

If you are disabled and have accessibility needs or need information interpreted for you, please contact the Department of City Development at (262) 636-9151 at least 48 hours prior to this meeting.