

December 9, 2015 (Historic Preservation Committee)

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015
6:00PM ALLOUEZ VILLAGE HALL**

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Ropp called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: H. Ropp, S. Metzler, W. Kornowske, C. Faller, J. Pascoe, B. Fredericks
Excused: B. Kehr
Also Present: T. Fuller

Ropp announced Kehr has resigned from the committee due to scheduling conflicts.

MODIFY/ADOPT AGENDA

Kornowske / Fredericks moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 28, 2015

Kornowske / Metzler moved to approve minutes dated October 28, 2015. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Staff brought to the attention of the committee Assembly Bill 568, which would take away municipal authority to designate and regulate a property as a local historic landmark without the consent of the owner.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

Jim O'Rourke, 2339 Oakwood Avenue

- Homes were left out of the intensive survey report in the proposed Miramar Residential Historic District that meets the National Parks Service guidelines.
- Homes on Sunset Circle were included in the proposed Sunset Circle Residential Historic District and do not meet the National Parks Service guidelines.
- Does not believe Assembly Bill 568 will affect the funds the village receives as a Certified Local Government from the Federal government. Believes historic preservation should be voluntary and not compulsory.

DISCUSSION OF PROPERTIES TO CONSIDER FURTHER REVIEW OF HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE – HOW TO PURSUE AND WHAT IS UNIQUE

The committee acknowledged that over the past few months discussion by the committee has been over individual properties in the village that might be considered for local historic designation. Some of these properties were not included in the final intensive survey report and may need further review to determine if the properties have enough merit for local historic designation. Staff is collecting information as it is learned and compiling into one electronic file. Staff went over the information for

the properties collected so far and the criteria listed in the village ordinances for local historic designation of a property. The properties referenced were as follows:

- "Greiling House" (2568 S. Webster Avenue)
- "Cotton Kid's House" (2521 S. Webster Avenue)
- "Hagemeister House" (2592 S. Webster Avenue)
- "Murphy-Cowles Estate" (304 Braebourne Court)
- "Murphy-Cowles Servant's Quarters" (246 Iroquois Avenue)
- "Wiese House" (336 Greene Avenue)
- "Darling House" (337 Greene Avenue)
- "Brenner House" (2539 Oakwood Avenue)

Pascoe / Metzler moved to suspend the rules and open up for public comment. Motion carried.

Jim O'Rourke, 2339 Oakwood Avenue

- Gave a brief history of the platting of Allouez. Many of the properties that staff presented are south of Mission Avenue to HWY 172 and were once part of the original "Greene and Vroman" plat. Greene and Vroman platted Allouez as a suburb and took advantage of the then recently constructed trolley line on Webster Avenue.
- The Murphy-Cowles Estate should be included on the National Register as a complete package – main house, servants' quarters, and fence. The main house was the first single family home in Wisconsin with a 12-stall attached garage (connected to the house by a tunnel). Relatives of the Murphy family started a car company in the 1890's with Henry Ford that later went bankrupt. Eventually, the relatives started their own company called "Cadillac."
- The "Butterfly House" on Waubenoor Drive should also be investigated because of the roof.

The committee asked O'Rourke if he could submit a map of the homes referenced and include information about the historic trolley line.

Kornowske / Metzler moved to take back up the rules. Motion carried.

The committee asked how and when to pursue local historic designation of the properties presented and if the properties with significant exterior alterations should be considered. The committee requested more information be gathered of the history of the properties and the people that lived in the houses. The significance of these histories might be enough for the state to entertain reassessing the properties, as the initial review was from the street view and only evaluated the properties on their architectural significance.

The committee asked how they should go about gathering more information. Staff recommended hiring a consultant to do further research on these properties if they wish to pursue them further and only after getting the buy-in from the property owners. O'Rourke also volunteered to present information to the village. The Committee asked staff to continue gathering information as it is submitted.

The committee noted that designating a property to be locally historic does not preclude that property from being on the National Register or State Register. A local historic designation might increase the

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chances of being included to the National Register and State Register because there would be a documented history on the property showing the local significance.

The committee discussed that investigating the properties that would receive local historic designation and the properties eligible for the National Register and State Register should be done separately, but concurrently. The committee discussed having another open house in May for property owners wishing to learn more about the National Register and State Register.

SET NEXT MEETING DATE AND AGENDA

Next Meeting Date: January 27, 2016, 6:00 p.m.

Agenda Items: Discussion of how to pursue local designations, schedule for public input meeting for individually eligible homes

ADJOURNMENT

Pascoe / Metzler moved to adjourn at 6:59 p.m. Motion carried.

Minutes submitted by Trevor Fuller, Planning and Zoning Administrator.