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Preservation Month
Activities/
Acanthus Award

- Landmarks Commission requests that Mayor proclaim May as Preservation Month in the City
 - Mayor F. Tower makes proclamation at Common Council meeting
- Commission selects Ginny Gross for her research work on Riverside Cemetery and Lucinda Vette for renovation and sympathetic reuse of 110 Algoma Blvd as Acanthus Award recipients
 - Commission Chair makes presentation at Common Council meeting
 - Commission receives very gracious letter of thanks from Ginny Gross
- Staff is directed to update list of winners on Landmarks web site

The Oshkosh Public Museum's tours of Riverside Cemetery with Ginny Gross as a guide have been well very attended

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Commission Member
District/Conference
Updates

- Each Commissioner was assigned a district to monitor. Various district reports were presented throughout the year
- Several Commission members and Staff attended State Historical Society training on "Landmark Commissions"
- One member attended "Adding Without Subtracting" Conference and provided feedback to Commission
- One member attended the Fall 2006 WAPHC Conference and provided feedback to Commission
- One member attended the Spring 2007 WAPHC Conference and provided feedback to Commission

The Landmarks Commissions web site can be found by visiting www.ci.oshkosh.wi.us and clicking on 'Historic Oshkosh'

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Election Of Officers
and
Member Changes

- 2007 slate of officers submitted
- Election of officers resulted in Harold Buchholz remaining as Commission Chair and Beverly Harrington remaining as Vice Chair
- Dick Rueckl resigned in January to accept a job opportunity in a different part of the state
- Burk Tower assumed the role as Common Council Representative replacing Shirley Mattox
- Commission recommended Shirley Mattox seek Common Council approval to join Commission as a voting member

Membership is open to all Oshkosh Residents. An application form is available on the City's web site www.ci.oshkosh.wi.us

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Items Under
Discussion
and/or Tabled

- Commission Members investigate obtaining training in helping public fill out historic nomination forms
- Commission explores partnership with the Paine Art Center regarding banners for Preservation Month
- Discussion on ideas for involving children in awareness and appreciation of Oshkosh architecture
- Enhancing Landmarks web site to include Acanthus Criteria and nomination forms
- As directed by Mayor, Commission discussed meeting time, date and membership makeup. Meeting date and time seemed to be appropriate given the different obligations the various members have. Commission will re-visit this topic in September 2007.

The Oshkosh Landmarks Commission meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 4 pm in Room 204 of City Hall

CITY OF OSHKOSH
LANDMARKS COMMISSION

ANNUAL REPORT ON ACTIVITIES



*2006 Acanthus Award Recipients
Ginny Gross for her research on Riverside
Cemetery and Lucinda Vette for her
sympathetic reuse of 110 Algoma Blvd*

Submitted To:
Oshkosh Common Council

For Period:
July 2006 thru June 2007

Compiled By:
Harold E. Buchholz, Chair

Landmarks Commission Members:

Harold E. Buchholz - Chair

Beverly Harrington - Vice-Chair

Carol Esslinger

Richard Rueckl

Todd Clark

Alternates:

Dennis Arnold

Arlene Schmuhl

Common Council Representative

Shirley Brabender Mattox

Burk Tower

Staff:

Susan Kepplinger

Interested Parties:

Paine Art Center and Gardens

Oshkosh Public Museum

Oshkosh Public Library

- Item A** Landmarks/Visitors Bureau Collaboration on E-Newsletter
- Subcommittee presents concept E-Newsletter to Commission
 - Commission approves concept
 - Plan to release four copies per year
 - Architectural Styles is one feature which seeks to enhance appreciation and awareness of Oshkosh's historic architecture

'Life in the Past Lane' is the name of the Oshkosh Landmark Commission's E-Newsletter

- Item B** Local Landmark Designation
- Landmarks subcommittee explores possible candidates for designation
 - 34 potential properties were identified in the initial research phase
 - Report out to Commission suggests Wittman house as a primary possibility
 - Commission directs staff to begin process for re-designation of 226 High Street

Local Landmarking is vital to the economic, cultural and historic well being Oshkosh

- Item C** Tax Credit Project For Historic Properties
- Staff presents to Commission proposal for a partnership with Associated Bank in a program which would inform and make available loans for historic property homeowners who would then be entitled to a 25% Tax Credit upon completion of work
 - Staff sends out letters to owners of historic homes making them aware of this program and inviting them to a presentation by Associated Bank at the Oshkosh Public Library
 - Approximately 20 people attend including the Mayor and the City Manager

- Item D** Riverside Cemetery Chapel
- Common Council approves Chapel tile roof replacement and other repairs in Parks Budget
 - Landmarks subcommittee meets with preservation architect and contractor in prioritizing plan for repairs and roof replacement
 - Work on flat roof portion is completed
 - First phase of critical tuck-pointing is completed
 - Tile roof replacement is completed

Riverside Cemetery was designated as a National Register Property in 2003

- Item E** Certified Local Government (CLG)
- Staff provides Commission information regarding benefits and requirements in obtaining Certified Local Government (CLG) designation
 - Commission and staff prepare information required for the application
 - Staff forwards proposed ordinance change to City Attorney for review
 - Common Council approves ordinance change
 - CLG application submitted to state for review
 - State forwards application to National Parks Service for approval

- Item F** Oshkosh Historic Churches
- Commission discusses pending decisions to close at least two Catholic Parishes
 - Commission learns through local news that St. Mary's Parish is closing

St Mary's Parish has been a part of the Oshkosh skyline since 1856

- Item G** Annual Report To Common Council
- Landmarks Commission prepares and approves Report on Activities
 - Staff prepares packet and submits to Oshkosh Common Council

Preserving Yesterday for Tomorrow...

- Item H** Commission 2007 Goals & Objectives
- Commission discusses progress on goals from 2006 and brainstorms additional new goals for future consideration
 - Commission agrees to keep working on the three goals established in 2006 and adds the CLG designation as an additional goal
 - Additional future goals identified:
 - Preservation of Riverside Cemetery
 - Improving Commissioners' knowledge of architectural styles
 - Response to potential future historic church closings

- Item I** 2006 Intensive Historic Resource Survey
- Staff works with OCAT to develop a program which would present results of Survey
 - State Preservation Officer agreed to participate

Oshkosh proudly boasts six National Register Districts