

RICHLAND CENTER HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING OF 26 NOVEMBER 2002

Present: Andreae, Bower, Moser, Kepler, Marshall, Shannon

Absent: Keller

Visitors for the public hearing: Phyllis Keller, Ben Koelsch, Dawn Kiefer, Robert Smith, Maureen Smith, Bob Keegan.

President Bower called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

The Commission convened the public hearing to consider the applications of Robert & Maureen Smith to list their home [the Leo Keegan house] at 480 North Central Avenue and of Dr. Richard and Nancy Edwards to list their home [the William Schmitt house] at 475 North Central Avenue on the local register of historic properties. Robert Smith spoke on behalf of their application, pointing out that the Tudor Revival architecture is one of only four examples in the city and that the original owner, Leo Keegan, was important in the business community as part of Keegan Brothers. The Smiths are only the second owners of the property. President Bower asked whether anyone wished to speak in opposition to the application. No one responded. Shannon moved, Kepler seconded that the Commission list the Keegan/Smith property. The vote was unanimous.

Next President Bower introduced Ruth Moser who presented the Edwards' application in their absence. Ruth explained that the Schmitt home is also of the Tudor Revival style and that William Schmitt had been important in cheese making and marketing in Richland Center. Clarence Steiner, a contractor from Prairie du Chien, built the house in 1936 from plans drawn by Edgar Stubenraugh, who later designed the Trinity Methodist Church. Ruth recalled that she had lived in the home several years to help care for her grandmother. Phyllis Keller, Ruth's sister, described the home as being very homey. Again, no one rose to speak in opposition to this application. Marshall moved, Moser seconded and the Commission voted unanimously to list the Schmitt/Edwards home on the local register.

President Bower explained that he would arrange for Dick Wilson, Director of Public Works, to contact the two owners to arrange the installation of the plaque which announces the listing on the local register of historic properties.

At 7:20, on a Kepler/Moser motion, the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the public hearing and convene the regular meeting of the Commission.

Reading the Minutes of the 29 October meeting was waived. Shannon moved, Andreae second.

Reports on future listings:

Marshall reported that he has not contacted Craig Toms about listing the "stone bungalow" on Grove Street. He had talked to St. Johns and learned the congregation is in

the midst of considering an expansion project. So, this is not a good time for them to consider a listing.

Moser had similar news about the Church of the Nazarene. The congregation is also involved in a discussion about a new building. We will also hold off on pursuing this listing for the time being.

A brief conversation was held concerning the Sam Scaletta home at 415 N. Central, another Tudor Revival style building. This was built by Judge McCorkle; Ruth Moser recalled delivering vegetables to the McCorkles as a young girl.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

The next meeting will be Tuesday January 27, 2003.

Submitted by Jerry Bower

RICHLAND CENTER HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING OF 29 OCTOBER 2002

President Bower called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM.

Present: Andreae, Bower, Kepler, Moser, Shannon, Marshall

Absent: Keller

The minutes of the 24 September 2002 meeting were approved as printed.
(Shannon/Marshall)

Reports on future listings:

Bower reported that he had contacted John Guelig—John wants to wait a while longer while he negotiates an addition with Dean-Duerh. Bower called Thad Stanley and learned that Thad had not contacted Craig Toms, the owner of the stone bungalow on Grove St. Marshall agreed to contact Craig about a possible listing of this unique home.

Moser reported on her activities: she called the Ganders about their application and was assured it would be submitted prior to this meeting. Not done, so she will call again. She contacted Jean Birkett about St. Barnabas church. Jean was enthusiastic but Rev. Carsen Culver was not. We will not pursue this at this time. She contacted John Annear about the church of the Nazarene. John provided the pastor's name and phone number and Ruth will contact him about a listing. A question arose about what would happen should the present congregation have to move to a different location to build a larger church—would the present building remain listed? Bower will make an inquiry about this to the State Historical Society.

Marshall has not yet contacted St. John's pastor.

Schedule public hearing on applications:

The Commission voted unanimously to hold a public hearing on 26 November at 7:00 PM on the applications from the Smiths for the Leo Keegan house, 480 N. Central, and from the Edwards for the William Schmitt house, 475 N. Central. We will also include the Ganders' application if it is received within one week.. (Shannon/Moser)

Reports:

Moser described her attendance at the Friday (25 Oct.) session of the 2002 Wisconsin Autumn Historic Preservation Conference held in Spring Green.. Mark Ihm, WAHPC president, from Platteville, was the keynote speaker of the opening session. He described the "Passion for Preservation" in downtown Platteville in which he has played a central role. He listed many advantages of downtown preservation. Ruth attended a session, "Economics of Preservation for Historic Downtowns," presented by Larry Kirch, La Crosse city planner. Kirch described how La Crosse has preserved and improved its riverfront district to create 2,500 new jobs and add millions in property value. One of the awards presented at the evening reception went to Richland County Bank for a historically appropriate addition to the building.

The Commission unanimously approved renewing membership in the National Trust for Historic Preservation for \$20.00. The membership will be in Mayor Rita Kidd's name.
(Moser/Andreae)

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM..

The next meeting is scheduled for 26 November at 7:00 PM.

Minutes prepared by Jerry Bower

RICHLAND CENTER HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING OF 24 SEPTEMBER 2002

President Bower called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Present: Bower, Kepler, Moser, Marshall, Shannon. [Andeae had a special Council meeting]

Absent: Keller

The Minutes of 27 August 2002 were unanimously approved as printed. (Moser/Kepler)

Reports:

Bower reported that he had not gotten to the research for Bev Denker, re: grants for tuckpointing, but he had gathered the materials from the HPC files. Leslie Meadows had called Bower to report that Mrs. Delventhal had been ill and asked to delay their conversation about listing her home. Bower had not called John Guelig or Rev. Mary Jeffries; he will keep trying.

Moser reported that she had called the Edwards and offered to fill out their application, if they would sign it. Her offer was accepted. She tried to contact the Ganders but was unsuccessful; she will keep trying.

Shannon reported that he had delivered the second set of application materials to Dr. Smith.

We are hopeful that we may be able to list the Edwards, Gander and Smith homes via one public hearing. This would be a real coup.

Assignments:

Moser will contact Jean Birkett about St. Barnabas Church and John Annear about the Church of the Nazarene.

Marshall will contact the pastor at St. John's.

Bower reminded that members of the HPC Conference to be held in Spring Green on October 25-26. He reminded them that the Commission budget would pay their registration and meal expenses. Perhaps Moser, Kepler and Marshall will be able to attend.

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:37. (Kepler/Marshall)

The next meeting is October 22 at 7:00.

Minutes prepared by Jerry Bower



RICHLAND CENTER HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING OF 27 AUGUST 2002

President Bower called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Present: Andreae, Bower, Kepler, Marshall

Absent: Keller, Moser, Shannon

The Minutes of 28 May 2002 were unanimously approved as printed. (Marshall/Andreae)

Bower reported on the dates of construction for several churches; those which are at least fifty years old are eligible for listing on the local register.

Church of the Nazarine-1940; St. Barnabas-1941; St John's-1951 sanctuary, 1959-education unit; Trinity United Methodist-1953 sanctuary, about 1960 education unit. Bower mentioned that he will try to approach the First Baptist Church through its pastor, Mary Jeffries.

Bower reported that he had contacted Bev Denker about listing her 1883 Antiques building. She *may* be interested. She wants to know if there are grant possibilities for listed buildings for tuckpointing, which her building needs. Bower will try to find the answer.

Most of the remainder of the meeting was devoted to an informal orientation to the HPC for Rod Andreae, the newly appointed Council member on the Commission. We discussed primarily the Preservation Ordinance and the work of the Commission to the present. We noted that it has been a pretty long time since the Commission has received an application for a listing although several applications are "in process." Bower wondered whether the Commission should offer to fill out the application for the owners of an eligible property. He thinks that might speed the process.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40.

Minutes prepared by Jerry Bower



RICHLAND CENTER HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING OF 28 MAY 2002

Present: Bower, Kepler, Shannon, Stanley, Marshall, Keller
Absent: Moser
Visitor: Mayor Kidd

President Bower convened the meeting at 7:03 PM.

The minutes of the 23 April 2002 meeting were unanimously approved.

We devoted the entire meeting to a discussion of various possibilities for additional listings and one potential problem.

A. Shannon reported that Dr. Smith had requested another application packet. Mayor Kidd found the materials in the files.

B. Bower reported that he had talked with Dr. Guelig about listing his building. Guelig seemed interested in moving forward with an application. Bower will check with him to see if there are questions.

C. Bower had no report on the construction dates of several churches because he had not done his homework! Next meeting for sure.

D. Bower will call Tracey Denker to learn whether there is now interest in listing the 1883 Antiques building. Kepler believes that Susan B. Anthony may have given a suffrage speech in the opera hall that was upstairs.

E. Stanley had discussed a possible listing with Craig Tom, owner of the "stone bungalow" on West Side Drive. He will take an application packet to the Toms. He also will recontact the Cosgroves about listing their home.

F. Keller will contact his neighbors at 358 N. Central Avenue about listing their home.

G. We speculated about homes on the corner of Sheldon and Kinder, kitty-corner from the Free Methodist Church, and Sheldon and Mill. Marshall reported that the latter home is for sale.

H. The potential problem we discussed is the condition of the Ira Haseltine/Parfrey/Kay home at 330 S. Grove Street. The exterior is exhibiting some deterioration and we wondered whether we needed to invoke the enforcement section of the preservation ordinance. We decided to make it a point to drive by the home and take a good look. We need to be very careful about our actions and their potential for creating a negative image for historic preservation. In this context we also briefly discussed the condition of the City Auditorium and wondered whether the city has a committee which is working toward finding a tenant. The danger of course is that vacant buildings can deteriorate rapidly.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55PM.

Notes Prepared by Jerry Bower



RICHLAND CENTER HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting of 23 April 2002

Present: Bower, Kepler, Moser, Shannon, Stanley
Absent: Marshall, Keller
Visitor: Mayor Kidd

President Bower convened the meeting at 7:02.

Bower reported on his contacts since the last meeting. Richland County Bank Board voted against listing. Did not hear from First Baptist, which suggests a lack of interest. Called Leslie Meadows and she will follow-up with Mrs. Delventhal and with the Lewises, after they return from Texas.

Moser reported that she has recontacted both the Ganders and Dr. Edwards. Both are going to apply.

Shannon reported that he had again talked with Dr. Smith, who will also list, sometime.

The remainder of the meeting we discussed future prospects from the buildings we added to our CLG inventory in February.

We declared no further interest in the following:

J C Penney Building @ 165 West Court
McCollum Building @ 165 North Main
Schmitt Bros. Cheese Company @ 373 West Sixth
Prestegard Farm Machinery Co. @ 315 West Seminary

For the others, we decided:

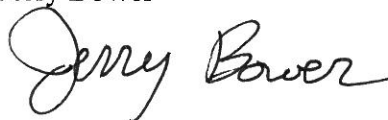
Stanley will contact Craig and Janet Tom about their Stone Bungalow @320 Westside Drive

Bower will check the survey to assure that the following churches are fifty years old and eligible: Church of the Nazarene, St. Barnabas Episcopal, St. John's Lutheran, and Trinity United Methodist.

Moser will do some checking on the First Assembly of God Church [old Methodist Church] We talked a bit about the Apostolic Faith Church [Kirby Thompson, pastor] and Ada Toms' home and Lunenschloss-Hansen and the Strang Home [Mike Nig]

Meeting adjourned at 7:40.

Notes prepared by Jerry Bower



RICHLAND CENTER HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF 26 FEBRUARY 2002

Present: Bower, Stanley, Shannon, Kepler, Keller

Absent: Marshall, Moser

President Bower called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. The minutes of 28 November 2001 were approved as printed.

The CLG [Certified Local Government] inventory was unanimously amended to add nine buildings which now are eligible for listing because they now are fifty years old. These did not meet the age criterion when the survey was made in 1987. The buildings are

The Stone Bungalow 320 Westside Drive
Church of the Nazarene 360 South Central
St. Barnabas Episcopal Church 297 North Main
St. John's Lutheran Church 479 South Park Street
Trinity United Methodist Church 400 East Seminary Street
Prestegard Farm Machinery Company 315 West Seminary
Schmitt Brothers Cheese Company 373 West Sixth Street
McCullum Building 165 North Main Street
J C Penney Department Store 165 West Court Street

Bower reported on the following contacts: Still waiting to hear from First Baptist Church. Will meet with the Richland County Bank Board of Directors on 27 Feb. 2002 at 4:00. Has contacted Dick Wilson about plaque installation at Peace United Methodist Church, Blue Highways/Masonic Temple, and The Park Apartments.

There was a lengthy discussion about the Dora Smyth house at 493 South Sheldon Street. The surveyors had mislabeled the home and had misspelled the last name. That will again contact the Cosgroves about the possibility of listing the home.

The meeting adjourned at 7:43.

Minutes prepared by Jerry Bower.

