



## OFFICIAL NOTICE AND AGENDA

of a meeting of a City Board, Commission, Department Committee, Agency, Corporation, Quasi-Municipal Corporation or Sub-unit thereof.

Notice is hereby given that the HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION of the City of Wausau, Wisconsin will hold a regular or special meeting on the date, time and location shown below.

Meeting of the:

Date/Time:

Location:

Members:

### HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WAUSAU

**Wednesday, February 22, 2023 at 4:00 pm.**

**City Hall (407 Grant Street, Wausau WI 54403) - BIRCH ROOM**

Gary Gisselman (C), Linda Tryczak, Kevin Crooks, Mary Forer, David Oberbeck, Christine Martens, Steve Miller, Brian Mason, Patrick Bacher

#### AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

1. Approve of the minutes from the November 30, 2022 meeting.
2. Discussion and possible action on educating the public on historic preservation.
3. Discussion of potential landmarks and districts.
4. Discuss May Preservation Month activities.
5. Next meeting dates.
6. Adjournment

Gary Gisselman - Committee Chairperson

This Notice was posted at City Hall and emailed to the Daily Herald newsroom on 2/17/2023 @ 3:00 p.m. Questions regarding this agenda may be directed to the Planning Department at (715) 261-6760.

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the City of Wausau will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs, or activities. If you need assistance or reasonable accommodations in participating in this meeting or event due to a disability as defined under the ADA, please call the ADA Coordinator at (715) 261-6622 or [ADAServices@ci.wausau.wi.us](mailto:ADAServices@ci.wausau.wi.us) to discuss your accessibility needs. We ask your request be provided a minimum of 72 hours before the scheduled event or meeting. If a request is made less than 72 hours before the even the City of Wausau will make a good faith effort to accommodate your request.

Distribution List: City Website, Media, Committee Members, Council Members, Hebert, Lenz, Jacobson

## **HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

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Time and Date: Wednesday, November 30, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. in the Birch Room of Wausau City Hall

Members Present: Gary Gisselman, Mary Forer, Christine Martens, Steve Miller, Brian Mason, David Oberbeck (arrived at 4:03 p.m.)

Members Not Present: Linda Tryczak, Kevin Crooks, Patrick Bacher

Others Present: Brad Lenz, Melissa Engen

In compliance with Chapter 19, Wisconsin Statutes, notice of this meeting was posted and transmitted to the *Wausau Daily Herald* in the proper manner.

Chairperson Gisselman called the meeting to order at approximately 4:00 p.m. stating that a quorum was present.

### **Approval of the minutes from the September 16, 2022 and September 28, 2022 meetings.**

Mason motioned to approve the minutes from the September 16, 2022 and September 28, 2022 meetings. Miller seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Discussion 2023 Goals and Objectives for the Commission.**

Oberbeck arrived at approximately 4:03 p.m.

Gisselman said that someone from the State of Wisconsin could attend a meeting to discuss tax credits. Martens said that there is a need for public information. There is a lot of misunderstanding. Gisselman said that an engagement session may help. Martens said that a video that could be put on the city website would help. Forer said that there are a lot of positives in the cultural resources chapter. Oberbeck added that the benefits of landmarking could be shown and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street is a prime example. Miller asked if the commission has a budget for this. Gisselman said that there is not. Martens said that there may be resources from the Mayors Office that can be used. Oberbeck said that experiences could be told. Mason said that he thinks most people think about the preservation positively. Gisselman added that there are few people that did not support the John Marshall School landmarking, but the area seemed to support it. Oberbeck said that there can be some code requirements and alterations can cost more. Forer added that it could be noted that the commission doesn't have any control on interior alterations.

Lenz said that the ordinance for historic properties is in the packet. Gisselman said that the city has not seen the Marathon County Westside Master Plan. Oberbeck said that it will go to the County Board for a presentation. The historical buildings will stay in place but will be moving around. Martens said that it will change how it feels. Lenz said that the Parks Director was here and the preliminary plans were reviewed. They are being sensitive to the historic aspects of Marathon Park, many of which are already landmarked. Forer said that the log building near the splash pad will be razed. Gisselman said that it is falling apart. Oberbeck added that it is set for the December or January County Board meeting.

Gisselman said that a lot of the buildings on the national register are locally landmarked. Martens asked if there should be something on the website to show if a property is landmarked. Miller said that a lot of churches are not landmarked and said that they may be misinformed. Gisselman reminded the commission that there is a process for landmarking and it is not a quick process. Oberbeck said that churches are an integral part of Wausau.

Gisselman showed the commission a slideshow of properties on Grand Avenue. The commission discussed the Nathan Orr House and Louis Marchetti House on Grand Avenue.

**Update on John Marshall School.**

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Miller thanked everyone for supporting the landmarking. The faculty are thrilled about the outcome. Gisselman added that the community responded well.

**Next meeting dates.**

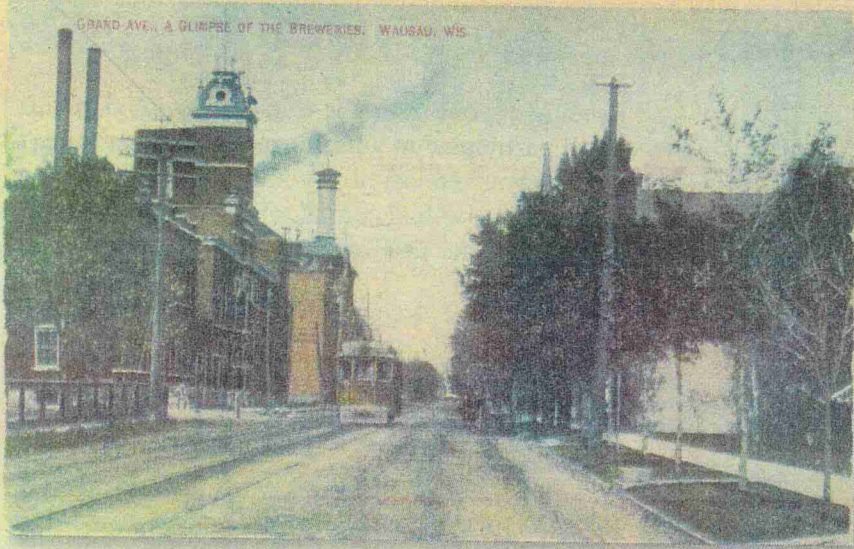
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The next meeting is scheduled for January 2023.

**Adjournment.**

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The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:00 p.m.



## A Memory Down Grand Avenue

By Gary Gisselman

There are very few streets that demonstrate the history of Wausau as does Grand Avenue.

This street has certainly changed through the years. Now it hardly looks the same as it did in the early days of Wausau. In those the early years Grand Avenue was just a dirt street but it took on a degree of magnificence by the trees lining the road and by the notable houses starting to be built. Most of these houses are lost but we are still able to point to the John Ringle House at 114 Grand Avenue, the Jacob Kolter House at 202 Grand Avenue and the recently relocated Louis Marchetti House at 921 Grand Avenue as architectural gems that are still with us today.

As we progress down Grand Avenue there are still some reminders of our history. St Mary's Catholic Church has been part of this neighborhood since its first church building in 1867. Across the street and on the corner of Grand Avenue and Thomas Street we have Hammond Park. This piece of parkland has graced this corner for a long stretch of Wausau's history. It first began as Columbia Gardens and then was acquired by the city as a gift from Sue Hammond Rhea in memory of her father Benjamin Hammond. Noted landscape architect C.H. Ramsdell of Minneapolis designed the stone structures in the park.

Two other landmark features on Grand Avenue are the granite gate structure at Pine Grove Cemetery and the old Memorial Hospital (now Sturgeon Bluff Apartments) on the corner of Grand Avenue and Sturgeon Eddy Road. The hospital was built in the 1920's and has undergone several additions through the years with some renovation when is turned into an apartment building. The gothic style gate at Pine Grove Cemetery was built in 1911 with monies raised by the Wausau Ladies Literary Society.

Two recent additions to the list of landmarks on Grand Avenue are the Louis Marchetti House at 921 Grand Avenue and the Orr House at 915 Grand Avenue. Both of these houses were relocated to Grand Avenue from their previous home in downtown Wausau. Louis Marchetti was a judge in Wausau and mostly noted for writing the classic History of Marathon County. To the north of the Marchetti house is the Nathan and Fannie Orr house, one of the finest examples of Greek revival architecture in the city.

Through the years many buildings have been lost that once framed the splendid Grand Avenue. With a widening of Grand Avenue in the 1960's the great trees lining the avenue were cut down. Businesses that once reflected the cultural life of Wausau such as the Mathie-Ruder Brewing Company are long gone. But Grand Avenue still retains much that point to the variety and richness of Wausau's history.

The Marathon County Historical Society is offering a walking tour of Grand Avenue Monday evenings on May 2, 9, and 16 at 6:30 p.m. Tours last approximately 1 1/2 hours. Meet in the parking lot of Olson Tire at 601 Forest Street for the start of the tour. Price is \$5.00 per person. For more information call the Historical Society at 715 842 5750.

Gary Gisselman is historian at the Marathon County Historical Society.

## Brain Fe

1. Each of these words can be split in half, and two letters can be placed in the middle to create a new six letter word. For example BEND can be split into BE and ND, YO can be placed in the middle to create BE + YO + ND = BEYOND.

2. A fam one gran mother, mothers grandch ers, two three da in-law, o one daug

The four added pairs of letters, in order, spell an 8-letter word - what is that word?

29 peopl but no! V number o have bee

LEND  
LIAR  
THAT  
COIN

All Puzzles  
Bashers.co  
permission  
Answers F

## For Love, For Memories

Lace up your shoes and gather pledges to support Alzheimer's education, care and research!

Marshfield, Medford and  
Wisconsin Rapids  
September 10

Stevens Point  
September 17

Colby/Abbotsford  
September 18

Wausau  
September 24



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ALZHEIMER'S

alzheimer's association

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