



City of West Allis

Meeting Minutes

Historical Commission

Wednesday, January 29, 2025

5:00 PM

City Hall - Room 128
8405 W. National Ave.

REGULAR MEETING (draft minutes)

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

Present 6 - Mayor Dan Devine, Devan Gracyalny, Barbara Hart, Rory Modlinski, Marissa Nowling, Petra Theurich

Others Attending

Shaun Mueller, Economic Development, Development Project Manager
Carson Coffield, Economic Development Specialist

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [24-0679](#) April 17, 2024 (draft) Minutes

Attachments: [April 17, 2024 \(draft\) Minutes](#)

Nowling moved to approve this matter, Hart seconded, motion carried.

D. NEW AND PREVIOUS MATTERS

2. [25-0025](#) Consideration relative to the Financial Report for the period ending 12/31/24 presented by Devan Gracyalny, Vice Chair/Treasurer

Mr. Gracyalny reported the current balance on hand is \$2,370.15.

E. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION

3. [25-0026](#) Report from the West Allis Historical Society.

Mr. Gracyalny reported the Historical Society received nearly a \$1M donation. The Society is paying for phone and alarm systems, and are looking to convert the lighting to LED. Haunted Honey Creek and Winter Week are scheduled. West Allis Historical Society plans to scan more records to place them on the website.

4. [25-0027](#) Discussion regarding the Log Cabin on Historical Society grounds.

The log cabin and grounds will open again on May 1, 2025. School Field Trips and Eagle Scout projects are being scheduled.

This matter was Discussed.

5. [25-0028](#) Update on subgrant received from Wisconsin Historical Society for designations of properties to National Register of Historic Places.

Carson Coffield provided an update on the subgrant consultant and hopes to have the properties ready for nomination by the end of February. The subgrant application for 2025 requires a Letter of Intent to be submitted by September 2025.

This matter was Discussed.

6. [25-0029](#)

Discussion regarding priority projects and initiatives for 2025.

Discussion ensued regarding the following:

Allis Chalmers - Hobby Lobby plaque.

Liberace - who owns the property and house next to the Buzzard's Nest. There currently is no permanent display for Liberace.

Mayor Devine suggested holding a dinner or happy hour or Brewfest at the Historical Society - sell tickets for \$50 which includes food and beer, to raise money for a cause. The gazebo can be used for entertainment.

This matter was Discussed.

F. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Modlinski, seconded by Ms. Hart to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.



All meetings of the Historical Commission are public meetings. In order for the general public to make comments at the committee meetings, the individual(s) must be scheduled (as an appearance) with the chair of the committee or the appropriate staff contact; otherwise, the meeting of the committee is a working session for the committee itself, and discussion by those in attendance is limited to committee members, the mayor, other alderpersons, staff and others that may be a party to the matter being discussed.

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It is the policy of the City of West Allis to provide language access services to populations of persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) who are eligible to be served or likely to be directly affected by our programs. Such services will be focused on providing meaningful access to our programs, services and/or benefits.