

AGENDA # 2

City of Madison, Wisconsin

REPORT OF: LANDMARKS COMMISSION	PRESENTED: October 14, 2013
TITLE: Creation of Langdon Local Historic District (31625)	REFERRED:
	REREFERRED:
	REPORTED BACK:
AUTHOR: Amy Scanlon, Secretary	ADOPTED: POF:
DATED: October 14, 2013	ID NUMBER:

Members present were: Stuart Levitan, Chair; Marsha Rummel, David McLean, Jason Fowler, Michael Rosenblum, Christina Slattery and Erica Fox Gehrig.

SUMMARY:

Registered in support but not wishing to speak were Franny Ingebretson and Bob Klebba.

The Chair explained the process for creating a local historic district and the need to update the ordinance. He was embarrassed that this neighborhood is not already considered a local historic district; as this area has been a National Historic District since 1986. Under the revised standards he sees that all four standards will be met, as the phrase “influenced their age” will be removed from the new ordinance.

The area as defined by the national district does satisfy the three criteria and staff will begin the process of writing what is currently called a historic preservation plan and the new ordinance (special area plan). The Commission found that this area satisfies the standards discussed. Slattery wondered if there has been too much erosion of this neighborhood to be considered a local historic district. The motion will state the Commission’s preliminary conclusion that based on these famous people, these distinguished architectural styles and what we know about the neighborhood that this geographic area on its surface meets the terms of these three criteria for creating a district and now staff needs to do the actual nuts and bolts of writing the plan, creating the review criteria, drafting the ordinance and bringing it back to the Commission. The motion does not create the district, it merely creates the process.

ACTION:

A motion was made by Gehrig, seconded by Rummel, the Landmarks Commission **APPROVED** beginning the process of creating a Langdon Historic District. The motion passed by voice vote/other. The motion noted that the Landmarks Commission finds the area constituting the Langdon Street National Historic District satisfies the standards of Sec. 33.19(6)(d) MGO as follows:

1. The area exemplifies three important cultural and social eras in Madison history: the early development of Mansion/Big Bug Hill, the development of the area as a prestigious neighborhood for university faculty, and the development of the Greek letter societies.

2. The area is identified with several personages who are historic in the context of Madison and the University of Wisconsin, including:
 - Levi Vilas
 - J. T. Marston
 - Halle Steensland
 - Thomas E. Brittingham
 - Frederick Jackson Turner
 - Charles Van Hise
 - Charles S. Slichter
 - John Suhr
 - Joseph Jastrow
3. The area embodies the distinguishing characteristics of several architectural type which are inherently valuable for the study of a period or periods, styles, methods or construction, indigenous materials or craftsmanship, including Italianate, French Second Empire, Queen Anne, Prairie, Tudor/Elizabethan Revival, Colonial and Georgian Revival. Among the architects represented in the area are Frank Riley, Claude and Starck and Law, Law Potter.