

## Annie Stewart Neighborhood Meeting Notes – 8/29/22

### Recording:

[https://media.cityofmadison.com/Mediasite/Channel/neighborhood\\_meeting/watch/c87065cb289e4d83a7e50da363fe38811d](https://media.cityofmadison.com/Mediasite/Channel/neighborhood_meeting/watch/c87065cb289e4d83a7e50da363fe38811d)

### In attendance:

- Jamie Morris (CSOS)
- Andrejz Dajnowski (CSOS)
- Bonnie Gruber
- Jim Lorman
- Nadia Niggli
- Mark Wagler
- Janet Murphy
- Hailey Verdick
- Dean Fraser
- Katie Ryan
- T Bartell
- Maureen Mross
- Tag Evers

### Recording the meeting for Alder and others

### Status:

- Have 3d lase scanned and done a ground perpetrating survey of the perimeter
- Conservation and conditional assessment completed
- Created an opinion of probable cost with repair scopes
- Sculpture is in good condition, but the fountain is in very poor condition
- Concerned about people coming and going from inside the fountain and it is a safety hazard. Recommend it is roped off so people cannot climb on it
- Conditions of distress are independent and cause each other in a cyclical way
  - Extensive cracking
    - Perimeter wall cracks that have soluble material that has leached out of them
    - Large circular crack on lower tier of base of the sculpture
    - Cracks allow water in, it freezes, and then it makes the cracks larger
    - A filler material has been introduced into spots and it is not appropriate
  - Spalls and missing material
    - Chunks of material missing
    - Sometimes happens from force
  - Previous placed coatings and added materials
    - Past interventions
    - No reports available to show what has been done
    - Can tell there are incompatible materials
    - Two rings have been coated

- Can't tell when these repairs were done
- Vegetation and biological growth
  - Pretty severe lichen and other growth
  - Cracks allow in water and encourage growth of things that are blown or dropped into the cracks
  - Micro and macro biological growth
  - These things hold water and have root systems that create more issues
- Discoloration and deposits
  - Various levels, some worse than others
  - Mineral deposits from water circulation
  - Some from repair materials that when wet became diluted and migrated
  - Biological growth and grime creating discoloration
  - Discoloration and deposits tell us what is happening inside
- Corrosion of internal steel
  - From exterior discoloration we can tell the steel is corroding
  - A steel bar around the perimeter of sculpture is visible
  - When steel becomes wet it expands and breaks off portions of the enclosing material, which is continuing to happen
- Ground penetrating radar
  - Perimeter contract has shifted and opened up
  - No significant voids
- Proposal
  - Minimal repair: Clean the marble, install it in an alternate location on a new base
  - Moderate Repair: new base to mimic original; minimal recreations (nose for instance)
  - Thorough: All the above plus recreation of perimeter wall
  - In doors versus outdoors for all of these options
- Nadia question – the right hand column option is a simple base and inside. The middle is recreated base and outdoors , thorough adds the wall
- Mark question – what happen if the marble is outdoors?
  - If cleaned and replaced outdoors – if it continues to have a routine maintenance program (cleaned every few years) it could be outdoors for a long time
- Cost
  - Inflation and materials shortages may change this
  - These were prepared one month ago
  - The existing base would need to be demoed and the site restored which adds \$50K
  - Thorough repair in place will be messy and loud, and the most expensive option. Minimal and moderate repairs are not possible outdoors.
  - Karin – these numbers do not include recreating the missing pieces. CSOS – between \$50-75K each depending on the material
- Janet – 50K accurate just to demolish?
  - Yes

- What is your professional opinion on the work of art?
    - TBD
    - Any ideas for indoor sites?
      - Karin – the way that the group wanted to handle it was to get cost estimates first. Suggestions such as the parks building or a museum were mentioned
- Mark – across the site are mounds. Once the main entrance to the park. We should assume there are mounds underneath here. Does that change the place? Taking it out needs to be done but does it change the cost? If there are mounds?
  - Jamie - The ground penetrating radar was included in the scope. It did not indicate that there was any mound structure. No reason to believe, based on that, that there is anything under here. My law all activities would stop and an archeologist would need to come in and that would affect the price.
  - Karin - Will need a COA no matter what because of the adjacency to the mounds
- Decision making process
  - The fountain is not listed in the national register of historic places
  - It is also not individually listed as a local landmark
  - It is on the perimeter of national district
  - Noted as a modern feature in a document analyzing national register
  - Could be nominated if a type of significance can be proved
    - A: event on the site
    - B: association with prominent individual (Annie C Stewart may not be enough to warrant a national designation)
    - C: Design or construction with unique developments and designs
    - D: information potential
  - National Register Criteria
    - Location - Retained, however site has shifted around it
    - Design - Retained, however weakened by loss of tritons and lack of water use
    - Setting - Loss, fountain no longer sits at the entrance to the zoo
    - Materials - Loss, many added repair materials and coatings
    - Workmanship - Retained but weak. Many modifications reduce the work by the original artist
    - Feeling - Retained but weak, due to missing elements and function
    - Association - Retained, fountain still associated with Annie C. Stewart,
      - interpretive signage could improve association
- Additional options
  - Can do a digital restoration with the 3D scans. Costs vary based on level of detail. Could be included into interpretive signage. Could print in any material in any scale.
  - Could also recreate the tritons based on historical images and research
- Janet – is it a good work?
  - Andrezej – yes, it is a good sculpture, we recommend you save it
- Jim – is transportation issue in regards to cost, if it is moved?

- Jamie – not materially. The taking apart is more expensive, moving is a smaller cost. Could be moved to a place in Madison that has power. It would need to be secured and have climate control.
- Karin – if the city and the community agree on one of these options, we could issue an RFP at this point?
  - Andrezj – you could, the prices vary widely. Some charge \$100/hour, others charge \$200/hour
  - Jamie – If you issue an RFP we expect it to be in this range
- Jim – do you foresee anything that might change these prices significantly?
  - Jamie – I do not see anything at this time
  - Andrezj, there is always inflation or someone else's approach. Even moving will be pricey, and things such as hiring a truck changes. It weighs in the range of 5,000-8,000 pounds (just the sculpture)
- Mark – how can we picture keeping it indoors? If you create more of the base, from your experience, is a public space going to want that? To make it bigger? Is that of enough value to imagine, if it is moved indoors? What makes it more appealing, a simpler statue or something with all the extra recreated elements?
  - Andrezj – based on past experiences museums want simple things that do not cost a lot, they don't want to maintain it
- Janet – Indoor vs outdoor base differences? I feel that we can spend better money elsewhere. What about outdoor but undercovers?
  - Jamie - The indoor vs outdoor price change in moderate has to do with the change of base style, simpler vs more recreation
  - Jamie - If outdoors you would still need to move, clean, treat, build a base, and potentially build the cover unless one is pre-existing
  - Jamie - A foundation needs to be built to deal with the weight of the object, indoors we assume the building has that foundation and can handle the load
  - Jamie - Will need to be on lower level or on a slab
  - Andrezj - Lichen eats a sculpture, it means the marble is being exposed to organic acids and water. Cleaning would be a good idea at the very least.
  - Jamie - The other option is to consider the reoccurring maintenance program. If inside the cost is significantly reduced, basically dusting.
- Janet – would be hard to think of a local place that resonated with the community and can take that weight and be inside.
  - Nadia - The zoo is undergoing a masterplan for renovation and designing it right now. They could plan for this.
  - Jamie - Would restore integrity of the site.
  - Andrezj - Could include a sign with a qr code or augmented reality experience to allow people to see the site.
- Mark – struggling to make the connection between this and Henry Vilas
  - Janet – Annie Stewart and Henry Vilas both committed suicide.
  - Jamie – the public wanted people to see it and acknowledge the story
  - Janet – it is a sad story and some might not care for the story
- Nadia – did the GBR reveal anything about the interior of the base?

- Jamie - The area tested was just the perimeter outside the wall, not inside the base.
- Janet – Is the moving not included? How much will that be
  - Jamie – it is included in the cost but not itemized
  - Andrezej – lifting is pretty much crane rental, 20-30K per move
  - Karin – this is incorporated in the costs, if we do an RFP we will expect the conservator to include that in the bids. They will use their own calculations.
- Janet – if it went indoor could it be restored in public?
  - Andrezej – it would be more expensive as the person would need to stay there in Madison. We are assuming it would be moved to a different city. Need a professional conservator.
  - Jamie – there are also aspects of safety to consider (chemicals and lasers, etc)
- Mark - Demo of the existing site, Parks people have to be responsible for that. We might present it to them with that assumption and if that would bring the cost down in our imagination.
- Janet - Are we assuming there is going to be fundraising for this?
  - Karin – the assumption has been that there would be fundraising but that the city would put some in.
  - Jim – most people are assuming private fundraising will pay a significant or nearly all of the cost
- Bartell – Is there a reason that we could not put a structure around this? Couldn't a minimal structure be put around? These costs are more than my house. This cost is crazy to me. This is nuts.
  - Jamie – the current status of the fountain is so deteriorated that it is a safety hazard. There is nothing we can do as it is that would be ethical and make it safe. It cannot stay in place as it is. A large intervention is necessary, this has been the opinion of the Insight report as well (previous report). Also, building a structure where it is will disturb the site and that is an issue on a couple of other levels. And would also be quite expensive.
  - Andrezej – imagine a child plays on the fountain and breaks a bone. You are sued for damages. Do you think it will be \$150,000 or more? The city will be responsible for it. The legal costs are going to be much higher than just moving, demolishing, or repairing it. The city has legal responsibility to deal with this. It needs to be surrounded by a deterrent system or a notice that it is not safe for the public. A fence would call \$1000.
  - Bartell – protect the structure from the elements and put a fence around it. Then preserve the marble.
  - Jamie – the marble is sitting on a severely compromised base.
- Cindy - Even if it is covered it is still exposed to elements, and the temperature fluctuations probably impact it?
  - Andrezej – yes, it does. If indoor it would be preserved longer.
  - Jamie – indoors is the most stable environment.
- Andrezej – I am working on a project now where a sculpture is being move inside and the main goal is basic preservation. Staying outside it will continue to deteriorate. If you want it to last it needs to come in.

- Jim- I am not sure we address Tom Bartell adequately – from my understanding because of the lack of integrity of the structure, by the time you make the structure safe – basic safety, and put a structure over it and clean the marble, the cost would be close to what we are talking about or over.
- Mark – does this have enough value that we might be able to find a local museum who would value it higher enough with their current funding structures that they might be willing to pay for some of the restoration and installation
  - Andrej- hire a professional art appraiser to get you a quote.
- Tag Evers – I think what Mark is suggesting there is a possible path forward via the state of WI historical society who are planning to build a multi-million dollar new structure and see if they have any interest in this and they do have state and federal resources and fundraising dollars. It is a unique part of history. I think it is unlikely this group alone could raise the money, versus working with a group like that and some big donors.
- Janet - What is our timeline, as many of these building are not up?
  - Jamie – could be extended if it is blocked off from public access so it is safe, Remove the vegetation, covering it to prevent moisture from getting in.
  - Andrej - Put a roof over it. Make it inaccessible.
  - Jamie – it is not beyond repair, a couple more years of weather will not be a deal breaker
- Janet – how long to restore?
  - Andrej – if just cleaning marble would be several hundred hours, about 6 months. Anything more than that would thousands of hours.
- Jamie - Report timeline?
  - Nearly done. Need some info from you all to determine potential alternatives we need to include.
- Evers – The historical society already has a building and storage facility. They might be able take care of that for now.
- Next steps
  - Report finalized by CSOS
  - Jim - Jim and Nadia talk about previous survey and the costs here. Ask for more feedback. What can we expect in terms of funding? What about public funding. We do not need the consultants for that. Survey community.
  - Nadia – my question is what Madison has done in the past. What can we expect from the city for public funding? How much can we expect from private donors to contribute. Where will the money come from? This is all internal.
  - Mark – The survey should include options of keeping it outdoors, and I think we should invite Bill Quackenbush to determine Ho-Chunk feelings about the project. The survey should have this information.
  - Nadia – I agree, that needs to be first and foremost. We need to have all of the context.
  - Jim – I think we can meet with him and include that. Given the biggest expense is putting it back, I think it is less likely we return it here anyways. I don't think that will be critical, but the context will be in the survey.
  - Jamie – do you want the survey in the report or is that separate? Will it be just neighborhood wide?

- Jim – we could draft it, pass it by you. And I think larger than just the neighborhood. Karin can you help with that.
  - Karin - can you draft some information, and a survey, then we can put it out through the city press system. And have Jamie review all of that.
- Jamie – I think we should establish a basic timeline for the survey. We do not have a timeline as it is 80% written and can finalize whenever.
- Jim – draft in the next month. Then distribution.
- Janet – If the people who are hear don't have any interest in some kinds of restorations, and no one has spoken that, and that is included on the survey that is not valuable. Would you cut it down to some options? It can be a problem to survey totally unformed people.
- Jim – designing the survey will not be easy. The previous survey had a lot of info we can reuse and build on. We should probably give the people the option, what if they all really want it and can raise the funds?
- Karin – the city has always said they want to know what people want to do and then they will look at that.
- Janet – it gathers a lot of much and plants and I don't want it there. I would not want it back there if they gave us all the money. I wasn't feeling that I want to conserve the statue but I am not all for getting it inside and I think we can fundraise for it.
- Mark- if we follow along with Tag's idea, would it be appropriate to contact several spaces and see if they are interested or what questions they have? If they are not likely we should not include them on the survey.
- Tag – create a survey with context that is very similar. Use a decision tree that allows them to respond to the professional recommendations. Don't note specific places. Just state a location indoors. Keep it simple.
- Nadia – the survey should state the recommendations and guide the decisions but layout the full gambit of what is to be considered.
- Jim – will also share with IO group and also have some people test the survey first
- Ever s- commend the neighbors for keeping with going. Thank you all for your interest and participation, and Karin and staff for their support, and CSOS for responding to the call, we appreciate your guidance. It looks like we are getting the information we need to make a good decision.
- Jamie – I tend to be a thoughtful processor, also if there are others that develop more questions like me please send them to Karin and she can get them to us and we can respond
- Andrejz – please do something to to secure the site
- Jim – there is caution tape now that seems to be effective.