

## AGENDA # 2

City of Madison, Wisconsin

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REPORT OF: LANDMARKS COMMISSION

PRESENTED: 10/28/19

TITLE: 402 N Thornton Ave - Exterior Alteration  
to a Designated Madison Landmark  
(Tenney Park) - Shoreline  
restoration; 2nd Ald. Dist.

REFERRED:

REREFERRED:

REPORTED BACK:

AUTHOR: Heather Bailey, Preservation Planner

ADOPTED:

POF:

DATED: 11/1/19

ID NUMBER: 57894

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Members present were: Anna Andrzejewski, Richard Arnesen, Betty Banks, Katie Kaliszewski, David McLean, and Maurice Taylor. Excused was Arvina Martin.

### **SUMMARY:**

*Sarah Lerner, registering in support and available to answer questions*

Bailey explained that the project involves stabilizing the shoreline areas that were damaged by the 2018 flooding. She said that there is also a proposal to change the plant species to be more water tolerant, while remaining in line with the species of plants that were historically part of this landscape. She referenced the relevant standards, and pointed out that the staff report focused on Standard 1 of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards in discussion of the adaptation of the landscape to the current environmental conditions. She said that Tenney Park has Prairie-style landscape architecture, and showed photos from the 2018 flooding. She said that given the new environmental conditions, Parks plans to modify the design using indigenous plants that are still in the Prairie style, but can survive in an environment with more water. She explained that this would maintain the historic character of the landmark, and would be differentiated from the old as well. She said that staff recommends approval of the project as proposed.

Andrzejewski referenced Bailey's discussion of the Secretary of the Interior's Standard 1, and said that because of climate change, this is becoming increasingly common. She asked if Bailey's recommendation was based on best practices and if the topic is under discussion. Bailey said that the National Park Service has guidelines related to cultural landscapes, part of which is a discussion of plant species. She said that the guidelines acknowledge that one may need to replant periodically, and as conditions change, one will need to modify the plantings in a way that respects the original design and intent, but are adapted to address the current conditions. Andrzejewski said that the National Trust for Historic Preservation has been discussing this issue and that some flexibility should be allowed with regards to environmental change in order to preserve character-defining features. Bailey said that just as buildings evolve over time, landscapes evolve too.

### **ACTION:**

**A motion was made by McLean, seconded by Arnesen, to approve the request for the Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted. The motion passed by voice vote/other. Kaliszewski recused herself.**