

## **HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

December 7, 2016; 7:00 p.m. – Upper Civic Center

Present: George Beyer, Sharon Eiff, Gene Guskowski, Charlie Mitchell, Janel Ruzicka, Betsey Caron

Eiff, as Chair, called the meeting to order.

### **Past meeting minutes**

Beyer moved and Guskowski seconded approval of the past meeting minutes. 6-0

### **2160 Wauwatosa Avenue Sign Discussion**

Representatives from the Greek Orthodox Church requested a meeting with the HPC for clarity on the design details of the church's proposed sign. The representatives provided background on the church community, their fundraising efforts and the objectives of their new signage. Church representatives questioned the designation of the Wauwatosa Avenue Historic District and Eiff, Mitchell and Guskowski provided the timeline and historical background of the process including public meetings at which no community resistance to the designation had been expressed. Church representatives showed examples of internally lit signage (i.e. Wauwatosa East High School, City of Wauwatosa, St. Matthews Church, and the new way finding signage at Church Street on Menomonee River Parkway) Members of the Commission noted that most of the examples were outside of the Wauwatosa Avenue Historic District. Commission members emphasized that design guidelines in historically designated districts and particularly the objection to internally lit signage, are for the purpose of maintaining the integrity of the historic district. Commission members suggested that samples of signage materials be presented with the church's sign proposals in the future.

Church representatives indicated they would have a proposal to present at the next HPC meeting scheduled for January 4, 2017.

**Next Meeting:** January 4, 2017