



OFFICIAL MINUTES REGULAR MEETING

MEETING: Historic Preservation Commission
DATE/TIME: Wednesday, December 3, 2025 at 4:00 PM
LOCATION: Wausau City Hall – Maple Room
407 Grant Street, Wausau WI, 54403

MEMBERS:
Blake Opal-Wahoske Steve Miller
(C)
Christine Martens Brian Mason
(VC)
Michael Martens Patrick Bacher
Dave Oberbeck Brad Lenz
Kevin Crooks (Ex Officio)
Linda Tryczak Bill Herbert
(Ex Officio)

Members Present: Blake Opal-Wahoske, Christine Martens, Michael Martens, Brian Mason, Kevin Crooks, Patrick Bacher

Members Not Present: Linda Tryczak, Dave Oberbeck

Members Excused: Steve Miller

Present 6, Not Present 2, Excused 1

Noting the presence of a quorum, the Chairperson called the meeting to order at 04:01 PM.

1 Consideration of the minutes of the preceding meeting(s).

October 22, 2025 Regular Historic Preservation Commission Minutes

Motion by Commission Member Crooks, seconded by Commission Member Christine Martens, to Approve the October 22, 2025 meeting minutes. Motion Passed 5-0.

2 Discussion.

a. Historic Preservation Policy Training

Chair Opal-Wahoske suggested a Historic Preservation policy and ordinance training and review for the commission. Commission members agreed it would be nice to have an overview. Crooks volunteered to review the Historic Preservation ordinance, Chapter 2.82, at the next meeting. Blake will also provide a presentation to commission members at that time.

3 Discussion and possible action.

a. Discussion and Possible Action on the Landmark Nomination Form and Nomination Process

Chair Opal-Wahoske connected with the National Historic Preservation Alliance to discuss what our commission has available in regard to tools and resources, and they provided some examples of documents this commission could create. They encouraged a nomination form and process to create transparency and accessibility for nominating properties for landmark status. Christine Martens likes the idea of having a form and process so it is more clear for residents. Chair Opal-Wahoske will reach out to Madison to see if the commission can use their form as a template for the Wausau form. Martens asked if a list of resources for residents to find out the history of their home could be added to the form.

Motion by Commission Member Christine Martens, seconded by Commission Member Bacher, to

approve the creation of a landmark nomination form and process . Motion 6-0.

b. Discussion and Possible Action on the Creation of a Historic Preservation Policy Manual

Chair Opal-Wahsoke introduced the idea of a policy manual as a resource for new members and residents to understand historic preservation in the City of Wausau. Christine Martens agrees that it would be informative to have a policy available, especially for new members. Mason agrees that this would be a good resource for educating residents as well. The commission agrees that it would be nice to have written clarity on what is under the purview of the commission for both the public and commission members. For example, changing paint color versus replacing windows. This could be a separate document or an additional chapter in the policy.

Motion by Commission Member Mason, seconded by Commission Member Crooks, to approve exploring the creation of a historic preservation policy manual by meeting with the City Attorney. Motion 6-0.

4 Adjournment.

Meeting adjourned by Chair Opal-Wahsoke at 04:40 PM.

**The recording of this meeting may be viewed on
YouTube [@CityofWausauMeetings](#)**



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