

**MINUTES
VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

February 12, 2008

**Memorial Hall – Memorial Building, 19 East Chicago Avenue, Hinsdale
7:30 P.M.**

Chairman Stephens called the meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission to order at 7:36 p.m. on Tuesday, February 12, 2008, in Memorial Hall in the Memorial Building, 19 East Chicago Avenue, Hinsdale.

Present: Chairman Kim Stephens, Commissioner Cowell, Commissioner Arens, Commissioner Buczkowski, Commissioner McGue, Commissioner Gonzalez, Commissioner Winterfield

Absent: Commissioner Ives, Commissioner Schultz

Also Present: Village Planner Sean Gascoigne, Student Member Katherine Weller

Discussion

304 South Lincoln

John Bauer introduced himself and described his intents and proposed to restore the front of his house to as close as original from 1885. He discussed how he would recreate the railings and what materials would be used in the process

Commissioner Buczkowski asked Mr. Bauer if he was planning to also put the original railings down the front steps of the home

Mr. Bauer stated that this was already completed with a design as close to the original as he could find. He also stated that the photo he provided would be the design guide for completing the project. He noted that the discolorization on the bricks, from a previous railing, provided guidance on the location for pieces to be replaced.

After general discussion Commissioner Stephens motioned to approve the project. Commissioner Winterfield seconded. A vote was taken and the project was approved unanimously with a vote of 7-0

Chairman Stephens commended Mr. Bauer on his work to the home and questioned him what changes could be made to the process.

Mr. Bauer stated he thought the guidelines and general steps were fine except the excessive amount of copies that needed to be provided and the submittal of a plat of survey, which seemed unnecessary for this type of work.

Village Planner Gascoigne stated that although a plat of survey was not needed for this project, the Village of Hinsdale likes to have this on record for future projects down the road.

Mr. Bauer questioned if certain guidelines should be put in place and what should be required for certain types of requests such as a plat of survey, elevations, or a site plan.

Chairman Stephens agreed to this request and requested a discussion from the Committee members.

Commissioner Buczkowski stated that a simple sheet such as a guideline sheet could be created to make things easier for both the Commissioners and the applicants.

Mr. Bauer used examples such as landscaping, change of paint color, and material used for the outside of a home. He added if guidelines for each of these examples could be created it would make the process much easier.

Commissioner Cowell added additions and replacements to the list of potential items.

Commissioner Gonzalez offered his thoughts on colors, materials, etc.

Commissioner Arens confirmed on the conditions of changing the color of the house. He also stated his thoughts on the plat of survey issue. He noted that as long as the plat of survey was accurate and up to date there is no need to put any restrictions and how old the document is.

Village Planner Gascoigne agreed and expressed similar thoughts. He noted putting restrictions on these documents could prevent people or scare them away from doing work to their homes. He also noted this would cost homeowners dollars that do not need to be spent.

Chairman Stephens offered revisions and amendments to the language. She questioned where this information would be best to place.

Mr. Bauer suggested a cover letter explaining what types of things would require a certificate of appropriateness.

Village Planner Gascoigne suggested a question and form or a series of columns to determine what will be needed

The Commission discussed on whether landscaping and fencing should require a certificate of appropriateness.

Commissioner Arens offered suggestions as to how to address this issue. He indicated that the time to address non-structured issues was at the time of landscaping, not after the fact.

Minutes – January 8, 2008

The Commission reviewed and discussed the minutes of the January 18th meeting.

Commissioner Buczkowski moved to approve the minutes.

Commissioner Cowell seconded the motion. Motion carried and the minutes were approved.

National Register Meeting Update

Chairman Stephens introduced the PowerPoint presentation, summarized, and asked for general comments from the Commission.

Commissioner Cowell asked how many of the 17 land marked homes are in the district.

Commissioner Arens suggested a few pictures should be added showing the streetscape of the district.

The Commissioners discussed where the pictures should be taken within the district and if it was possible to take these pictures given the amount of snow on the ground.

Student Member Weller indicated to the Commissioners that the informative Hinsdale video was completed and was approximately 10 to 15 minutes long. She also stated that she could provide this video and make copies to each member of the Commission.

The Commissioners discussed the presentation and suggested changes that could be made such as grammatical errors and contact information.

Chairman Stephens confirmed the need for a strong conclusion and the indication to the members of the district as to how prestigious of a designation this and how this is not going to be a restrictive designation.

Chairman Stephens asked Village Planner Gascoigne for information about the E-Hinsdale Newsletter and also information with Tim Scott.

Village Planner Gascoigne stated the Village IT Director was on vacation and would find out this information when she returned.

A discussion took place between the Commissioners about delivering the packets to the residents in the district.

Preservation Month Events

Chairman Stephens asked for volunteers to help with the gift certificates for the coloring contest. She also discussed what was done in years past for this contest.

Commissioner Buczkowski volunteered and also made suggestions on how to distribute the documents.

General discussion took place regarding the coloring contest.

Chairman Stephens requested the Commissioners to start looking for candidates for the Home Preservation awards.

Commissioner Arens requested that it could go in the E-Newsletter.

Commissioner Recruitment

Commissioner Gonzalez stated that due to a heavy work schedule he will not be returning for his next term.

Chairman Stephens suggested that she would like to see a member from the Historical Society on the Hinsdale Historic Preservation.

Commissioner Gonzalez stated he would try to get in contact and find out some more information on the subject.

Chairman Stephens indicated Commissioner Arens will be back for another term but she has not found a replacement for herself. She asked the Commissioners to think about if they would like to become the new chairperson for discussion at the next meeting.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Commission, Chairman Stephens moved to adjourn. Commissioner Cowell seconded. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:35.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sean Gascoigne
Village Planner