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**MINUTES
VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING**

February 27, 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 27, 2008, in Memorial Hall in the Memorial Building, 19 East Chicago Avenue, Hinsdale.

Present: Chairman Kim Stephens, Commissioner Cowell, Commissioner Arens, Commissioner Buczkowski, Commissioner Winterfield, Commissioner Ives, Commissioner Shultz

Absent: Commissioner McGue, Commissioner Gonzalez

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

National Register Historic District Presentation

Chairman Stephens introduced the Historic Preservation Commission and also Vicki Granacki. She discussed which areas were surveyed and the process of detail.

Chairman Stephens went into detail about the facts of a National Register Historic District. She touched on topics such as nomination, eligibility, and the approval process. She discussed the advantages of being involved in this district such as tax break incentives. She mentioned the case study that was completed by Commissioner Cowell. She also stated that there are no limitations or strings attached with a National Register Historic District.

The boundaries of the district were displayed. Chairman Stephens stated that the area below 7th street may not make it into the district but that is still under negotiation. She also gave data of the number of homes with historic significance in the district and the historic architects who are involved in the district.

Chairman Stephens went into detail about the different architectural styles that are found in the district. She talked about land marked homes in Hinsdale and also gave a brief description of the downtown area, which is also a National Register Historic District. Chairman Stephens finished the presentation and opened for questions to the public.

Question and Answer Portion

Chairman Stephens discussed that there are zero negative side effects in a National Register Historic District. Vicki Granacki stated that the likelihood of passing for this district is very positive with only a few areas of the district still under review. She also stated that September would be the earliest date for approval. Chairman Stephens discussed the property tax freeze program and gave details as to who qualifies and the potential savings a homeowner could see.

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Vicki Granacki stated the only way to opt out of the district is for 51% of the homeowners to vote against the approval of the district, she discussed a single homeowner cannot withdraw from the district. Chairman Stephens gave an explanation of the land marking process and what could still be done to the home and also the limitations that are placed on the property.

Chairman Stephens stated the historical significance criteria and candidates for the tax freeze program are based on age and architectural integrity. She stated older homes that have been modified could still qualify if they are going to remodel to the original look to the home.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sean Gascoigne
Village Planner