

Approved 2/10/09

MINUTES
VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

January 13, 2009

Memorial Hall – Memorial Building, 19 East Chicago Avenue, Hinsdale
5:00 P.M.

Chairman Keseric called the meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission to order at 5:03 p.m. on January 13, 2009 in Memorial Hall in the Memorial Building, 19 East Chicago Avenue, Hinsdale IL.

Present: Chairman Nick Keseric, Commissioner Arens, Commissioner Buczkowski,
Commissioner Murphy, Commissioner Cowell, Commissioner Ives, Commissioner
McGue

Absent: Commissioner Shultz, Commissioner Winterfield

Also Present: Village Planner, Sean Gascoigne

Minutes

Mr. Gascoigne noted the July 8th meeting listed on the agenda was supposed to be listed as June 10th and would be placed on next months agenda for approval. Chairman Keseric asked if the Commission had any changes to the minutes up for approval. The Commission requested a few minor changes to each set of minutes. Commissioner Arens motioned for the approval of the minutes from February 12, February 27, and March 11th. Commissioner Cowell seconded.

Discussion

Presentation and discussion regarding National Trust grant for the rehabilitation of the Burns Fields Warming House

Chairman Keseric introduced Jean Follett, Village Trustee, to give a presentation about the rehabilitation process and options the Village could pursue. She gave a background history of this building and noted the condition of this building is in serious need of repair. She stated she has had discussions with the National Trust and the possibility of applying for grant money to repair this building. She also discussed a program called Friends of the Park, which would help to provide funding to buildings including the warming house should Parks and Recreation successfully create the program. She requested the Historic Preservation Commission should meet with the Parks and Recreation Commission should meet and discuss the best way to repair this building. Commissioner Arens questioned how much repairs for this project would cost. Trustee Follett stated her best estimate would roughly \$100,000 to restore it and use materials that go with the original design. Discussion took place as what would be the best way to determine the costs to repair this building. Commissioner Arens offered his services to contact a student professor to research the warming house to reduce the Village's cost. Trustee Follett expanded on the history and discussion continued on how to address the Burns Field Warming Houses needs. Trustee Follett and the Historic Preservation Commission decided to apply for the grant and also pursue getting students to help participate in the process.

Discussion regarding the Suburban Preservation Alliance

Trustee Follett introduced the Suburban Preservation Alliance and gave some background information on this group. She stated the next meeting will be on January 24th and she urged the Historic Preservation Commission to attend. Chairman Keseric questioned if the Suburban Preservation Alliance is doing anything currently that the Village could benefit from. Trustee Follett gave examples from certain communities but stated each community is different and strategies change from community to community to address their needs.

Discussion regarding Historic Preservation Commission Goals for 2009

Chairman Keseric introduced the discussion piece and stated this process will take a few meetings to come up with a focus list. Sean Gascoigne, Village Planner, stated the first goal and initiative will be Preservation Month because of the time frame and cost revolving around this goal. He stressed that each Commissioner should take a look at the list and offer suggestions if they thought certain goals would be achievable to the Preservation Commission. Commissioner Arens suggested the Commission consider utilizing the studies already completed in raising awareness to the community through either the website, channel 6, or another method. Commissioner Cowell questioned if the National Historic Register District was completed. Mr. Gascoigne stated the District was completed in November and the next task will be to create signage for the district. He stated a publication would be in the works to acknowledge this district in the Village newsletter and also in the Hinsdalean Newspaper. Discussion took place over the tax freeze program and how certain homes would be able to take advantage of this program and also other ways to promote landmarking in the Village. Trustee Follett also provided an update to the Commissioners regarding the Zoning Rewrite and encouraged the Preservation Commission to get involved in the downtown rewrite portion. Discussion also took place on how to give incentives to preservation projects such as rehabs and alternatives to teardowns

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Commission, Arens moved to adjourn. Commissioner Cowell seconded. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 5:48.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sean Gascoigne
Village Planner