

MINUTES
VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

DRAFT

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

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MINUTES
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June 10, 2008

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

Chairman Stephens called the meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission to order at 5:03 p.m. on June 10, 2008, in Memorial Hall in the Memorial Building, 19 East Chicago Avenue, Hinsdale IL.

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

Absent: Commissioner Shultz, Commissioner Gonzalez, Commissioner McGue

Also Present: Village Planner Sean Gascoigne

Minutes

The Commission noted the changes that needed to be made to the minutes from April 8, 2008. Chairman Stephens motioned for the approval of the minutes from April 8, 2008. Commissioner Cowell seconded.

Discussion

Update on Application for 16 S. Monroe

Chairman Stephens summarized what has been going on at 16 S. Monroe and gave a brief description of what took place during the conference call with the homeowner and Village Planner Gascoigne. She described the changes the homeowner's were looking to make and the reason those changes would not be permitted. Chairman Stephens explained the importance of doing a conference call prior to landmarking a home because many questions can be answered before the actual process even begins. Commissioner Winterfield entered at 5:08. Chairman Stephens requested staff to contact Carol Dyson to request contractor info.

Commissioner Arens and Commissioner Cowell opened a discussion about historic windows where to buy and replace old windows that retain the historic character of the home. The Commissioners engaged in additional conversation regarding the landmarking of homes and obtaining a tax freeze credit. Chairman Stephens gave examples of certain homes that are receiving this tax credit.

Commissioner Cowell questioned if changing the siding on a historic home in the tax freeze program would disqualify the home from the program. General Discussion took place. Commissioner Cowell also questioned how different siding on a historic home could affect the tax freeze and landmark status of the home. Chairman Stephens summarized the discussion and also raised the discussion of garages on historic properties

Chairman Stephens noted to the Commissioners that they would be unable to discuss any topics for the Zoning Re-Write Task Force meeting that took place on April 4, 2008 because it was not on tonight's

agenda. She stated the discussion would be continued to the next Historic Preservation meeting in July. Village Planner Gascoigne stated he would email a copy of the minutes from the Zoning Re-Write Task force that took place on April 4, 2008 when they were approved to each member of the Historic Preservation Commission before the next July meeting.

Historic Preservation Commissioner Education Opportunities

Chairman Stephens stated Commissioner Winterfield and herself attended the Hinsdale Historical Society to gather information for educational posters to be placed at both the train station and other places to be determined. Village Planner Gascoigne stated the train station locations were not secured yet but there is a spot open in the Village Hall for one poster.

New Commissioner Update

Chairman Stephens stated that Commissioner Gonzalez's position was filled by Joann Murphy, who is an owner of a landmarked home in Hinsdale. She questioned if this position would be approved by the Village Trustees before the next Historic Preservation meeting in July meeting. Village Planner Gascoigne stated he would look into the matter and make sure this would be approved before the July meeting.

Chairman Stephens stated that a new Chairman for the Historic Preservation was found. She stated she was unsure as to who the new Chairman was but would email the Commissioners when the information became available.

New Business/Old Business

Chairman Stephens informed the Commissioners about a comprehensive map of all of the homes that have been surveyed in the past eight years. She noted that some of the surveys are out of date and may need to be updated or rechecked. Village Planner Gascoigne stated Village staff would be able to complete this map in the upcoming weeks. Commissioner Arens stated he would like to see this comprehensive map on the Village Website, but as a first step to at least outline the survey areas before looking at each house in the area to check for errors of the old surveys. Commissioner Arens also questioned the idea of some type of gateway signs to increase the awareness of Hinsdale's historic downtown. Chairman Stephens stated Tim Scott, the Village Strategist, was working on a project that planned to acknowledge Hinsdale's historic downtown in each designated gateway area through a series of gateway signs that are scheduled to be installed in the coming months depending on budget constraints.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Buczkowski moved to adjourn. Commissioner Cowell seconded. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 5:37.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sean Gascoigne
Village Planner

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