

Approved
Mowery / Gonzalez

MINUTES
VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

September 8, 2015

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

Commissioner Mowery called the meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission to order at 5:00 p.m. on September 8, 2015 in Memorial Hall in the Memorial Building, 19 East Chicago Avenue, Hinsdale IL.

Present: Commissioner Harloe-Mowery, Commissioner Gonzalez and
Commissioner Bohnen

Absent:

Also Present: Chan Yu, Village Planner

Minutes

Commissioner Mowery introduced the minutes from the May 12, 2015 meeting. Commissioner Mowery asked for a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Bohnen made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Commissioner Gonzalez seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion – Map Project

Commissioner Mowery explained that she went back and reviewed the previous documentation on existing historical homes. The HPC divided the list about 2.5 to 3 years ago.

Commissioner Bohnen agreed.

Commissioner Mowery believes therefore, it must be redone.

Commissioner Bohnen agreed.

Commissioner Mowery suggested however, that they wait until more committee members join the HPC.

Commissioner Bohnen agreed to not push this for the next 30 to 60 days, while they pursue potential new commissioners.

Commissioner Mowery and Gonzalez agreed.

Commissioner Mowery asked Village Planner Chan, if he'd be the one the HPC gives the list to.

Chan responded yes, he is the correct person who will upload and populate into a custom Google Map. It's essentially called "geocoding" and can be linked from the HPC webpage, Chan explained.

Commissioner Mowery showed a map from 2002, containing the homes on the historic designated landmarked list, and asked what type of information and format the new map should show. The information on the map indicated the year, architect and address of the homes.

Commissioner Gonzalez and Bohnen said this is fine.

Commissioner Gonzalez mentioned we could certainly update the website as more information trickles in.

Commissioner Mowery asked Chan if he has seen the map.

Chan responded no.

Commissioner Mowery explained that there are only about 50 copies left, and she is happy to give Chan her copy.

Commissioner Gonzalez asked Chan if he could scan it.

Chan responded yes, the Village has equipment to do that.

Commissioner Mowery said the format will appear the same as printed in the map.

Discussion about a blue book of maps ensued, to cross reference with.

Commissioner Mowery reviewed that she'd review the past minutes to pull together the work that's already been completed. She liked the information because the columns of information reflected a map that was divided between the HPC members.

Commissioner Bohnen stated that he is curious to see which homes of the updated list could potentially qualify for their second tier landmark designation.

Commissioner Mowery asked how the HPC sends information out to the residents. She explained it'd be nice if the homeowners could submit their information knowing it could qualify for the designation. She also asked if it'd be possible to post something on the website.

Commissioner Bohnen believes the Hinsdalean may be able to allocate some space for it.

More discussion in regards to collecting information ensued.

Discussion – Builder/Preservation Breakfast

Commissioner Mowery introduced the new topic of a potential fall meeting with developers.

Commissioner Bohnen reflected on Commissioner Mowery's remarks at the last meeting and agreed that the HPC should not get into the nature of public relations. Thus, he decided to table the idea.

2nd Tier Landmarking

Commissioner Mowery reiterated the need for a good name for the plaques for this program awards. Some ideas for names included "Hinsdale Heritage Award" and "Historic Preservation Award".

Commissioner Gonzalez suggested "Hinsdale Historical Heritage Award".

Discussion about the size of the plaques and its location on the door frame ensued.

Commissioner Gonzalez suggested possibly using paper to visualize the different plaque sizes.

Commissioner Mowery asked Chan if the Village has any designers that could possibly help with the plaque.

Chan responded that he doesn't think there are any designers at Village Hall.

Commissioner Bohnen mentioned staff at Deep Creek Art (art studio business in downtown Hinsdale) may be able to help. He also said he could give them a call to ask.

Commissioner Bohnen added for the HPC to go around and review plaques to come up with a universal size that would apply to 85% of the award recipients.

Discussion about the potential issues from the size and location of the plaques ensued.

Commissioner Bohnen mentioned he will also ask the Deep Creek Art staff for ideas for the name of the 2nd Tier award.

Fence Regulations

Commissioner Mowery stated that she brought the Village Code for fences.

Commissioner Bohnen asked Chan if he has the Village code for fences.

Chan replied yes.

Commissioner Bohnen expressed that it was the HPC's understanding that they need to write a description of where they want the proposed new code directly to the Board of Trustees, and not the Plan Commission. He asked Chan to double check on this.

Chan replied sure.

Commissioner Bohnen asked who should write this. If it is the Village attorney, he'd like Chan to ask him to write it in two or three drafts.

Chan expressed that he believed from past meetings and discussions that the HPC would write it, for staff to add to the agenda.

Commissioner Bohnen replied it's gone back and forth, and it was decided to have only one paragraph.

Commissioner Mowery explained that the HPC needs to give the intent in the language.

Commissioner Bohnen stated that he brought pictures of examples. He also illustrated on a dry erase board, the issue with grade differences and the proposed possible solutions.

Discussion of different scenarios ensued in regards to the proposed additional fence height lengths.

Chan stated that staff is more than happy to write a cover letter to the HPC's future memo.

Commissioner Bohnen stated he will give Chan a one-time draft.

Chan added that he'd like an opinion from the building code staff since fence heights come from the building codes. Moreover, he does not know how the building codes arrived at those height limitations.

Commissioner Bohnen explained it was about 20 years ago, to address picket fences in the front yard and visibility issues. However, the exemption on wrought iron fences was forgotten.

FY2015 HPC Budget Discussion for HPC eligible activities

Chan explained the budget for the HPC is flexible towards accomplishing its mission.

Commissioner Mowery and Gonzalez expressed that's great.

Commissioner Mowery asked for any other topics the HPC would like to add to next month's agenda.

She added that the HPC should each reach out to a person to join the HPC.

Chan asked if any current commissioners would like to be the Chairman.

Everyone agreed to wait until new HPC members join.

Adjournment

With no additional discussion, Commissioner Mowery asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Bohnen made the motion and Commissioner Gonzalez seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:53 p.m. on September 8, 2015.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Chan Yu', written in a cursive style.

Chan Yu, Village Planner