

MINUTES

BOARD/COMMISSION: Historic Preservation

DATE: 4/19/18

MEETING: Regular

CALLED TO ORDER: 6:56 p.m.

QUORUM: Yes

ADJOURNED: 9:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Glen Ellyn Civic Center

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT: Chairman Marks, Commissioners Christiansen, Darga, Dieter, Loftus, Manak and Veum-Welsh

EXCUSED: Commissioner Vavra

ALSO PRESENT: Associate Village Planner Purvis, Village Planner Sterrett, Village Trustee Senak, Recording Secretary Solomon, Lara Ramsey with Ramsey Historic Consultants, Frank Weidner and Mr. Weidner's family

A. Call to Order

Chairman Marks called the Glen Ellyn Historic Preservation Commission regular meeting to order at 6:56 p.m., in the Civic Center at 535 Duane Street, Glen Ellyn, Illinois.

Associate Village Planner Purvis introduced Village Planner John Sterrett who will be joining the next few HPC meetings as he will take over as HPC's Staff Liaison in the next few months.

B. Approval of February 15, 2018 Meeting Minutes and March 15, 2018 Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Darga and seconded by Commissioner Loftus to approve the minutes of February 15, 2018. The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote.

A motion was made by Commissioner Loftus and seconded by Commissioner Darga to approve the minutes of March 15, 2018. The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote with Commissioner Christiansen abstaining as she was not at this meeting.

C. Public Comment

None

D. New Business

1. Guest Speaker – Frank Weidner

Mr. Frank Weidner, Former Village President from 1969-1973, presented a brief history of the redevelopment of the Civic Center as the Village Hall. Mr. Weidner stated they were very pleased with the outcome of the building and the use of the building today. Mr. Weidner stated the original Village Hall was in the basement of a building on Pennsylvania Avenue, next to the fire station. Mr. Weidner stated the Village offices and Police Department occupied 5,620 square feet, and it was not enough space for the Village's operations. Mr. Weidner stated at this same time, the School District and School Board President Dick Day were looking to move the Duane Street Junior High to another space. Mr. Weidner stated a deal was struck with the School Board, and the junior high become the Village Hall/Civic Center. Mr. Weidner stated the Village bought the former junior high for \$362,000, and the Village Board added an additional sales tax for a time to help with the cost. Mr. Weidner stated they did not need to do a referendum as no one in the Village was objecting to this. Mr. Weidner stated the Village's operations moved into the Civic Center in September 1971, and the building was in a good location as it was the geographic center of the Village and in the middle of the downtown area.

Chairman Marks stated it has been said the Civic Center is one of the best examples of re-adaptive use of a building.

Mr. Weidner thanked Megan at the Historical Society who helped do research and make copies of newspaper clippings. One of these newspaper clipping was shown of Mr. Weidner and another member of the Village Board holding a "Village Hall" sign. Commissioner Loftus stated that sign is now at the Historical Society.

Trustee Senak asked if there was any advice Mr. Weidner would give to the current Village Trustees. Mr. Weidner stated all the Trustees have been good over the years, but have gotten very little credit. Mr. Weidner stated it was good to see Trustees from all walks of life.

One of Mr. Weidner's daughters stated Mr. Weidner was a great visionary and instrumental in getting the Village Links property purchased. Mr. Weidner's daughter stated in 1969, President Nixon's daughter Trish came to the Weidner home to deliver the check from the government to help with the purchase price of this property.

Chairman Marks thanked Mr. Weidner for his service to the Village and his time this evening.

A five-minute break was taken, and the meeting continued at 7:34 p.m.

Commissioner Dieter entered the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

2. Preservation Event on May 17, 2018

Lara Ramsey, with Ramsey Historical Consultants, stated she prepared a draft of what she will present at the May 17th event at the Lake Ellyn Boathouse. Ms. Ramsey stated the major points of the presentation will be around why historic preservation is important in Glen Ellyn, myths and misconceptions about historic preservation, tools and methods used for historic preservation including specific examples from Glen Ellyn, possible incentives and available resources. Ms. Ramsey stated she will also explain the relationship of Ramsey Historical Consultants with the Village.

Chairman Marks stated he would definitely like some quotes about historic/heritage tourism shared, and Ms. Ramsey stated she would add some quotes to her presentation. Chairman Marks stated he would like it emphasized that the guidelines are not overly restrictive.

Commissioner Christiansen stated it would be good for Ms. Ramsey's presentation to be on the Village's website.

Village Planner Purvis stated she will prepare a one-pager with information and links on historic preservation.

Ms. Ramsey stated there is room in the presentation for photos and asked that any photos or quotes are sent to her in the next week. Ms. Ramsey stated she will have the final draft presentation then sent to Village Planner Purvis by the end of next week.

Trustee Senak stated it would be good to work in an appeal for people to participate in the rehab for the McKee House.

Ms. Ramsey asked about the HPC's presentation to which Chairman Marks stated Commissioner Loftus will do this part. Ms. Ramsey asked if a homeowner who has been through the design review process or landmarking process will be speaking. Village Planner Purvis stated she will contact Joanne McDonald, who resides at 250 Regent, about this.

Commissioner Manak stated he would like copies of the landmarking ordinance available for the attendees to take with them. Village Planner Purvis stated she will have the criteria list ready. Chairman Marks stated the new historic preservation brochures should be available at the meeting as well.

Village Planner Purvis stated invites will go out to anyone in the Village who has a plaqued home or a home in one of the surveys and all of the downtown businesses. Commissioner Christiansen stated invites should be sent to the real estate offices as well.

Village Planner Purvis stated she contacted the Park District to find out what presentation pieces are available for use, and there is no overhead or computer so Ms. Ramsey would have to bring her laptop for the presentation. Village Planner Purvis stated there is a TV that the laptop can be plugged into for the presentation, but it would be good to have some hard copies of the presentation available that can be passed around if need be. Village Planner Purvis stated she will check the availability of a screen at the Boathouse. Village Planner Purvis stated Village Planner Sterrett will be attending this event as Village Planner Purvis will be out of state that week.

Commissioner Christiansen stated it would be good to have the coloring sheets at the event. Village Planner Purvis stated she will ensure the coloring sheets are available.

Chairman Marks asked if someone from the McKee Group will speak. Village Planner Purvis stated she has not spoken to anyone on this. Chairman Marks stated he will contact Linda Gilbert about this.

There was a discussion regarding the order of the program, and it was decided that Ms. Ramsey would do her presentation then someone from the McKee Group could speak. After this, there would be a short intermission, and then Ms. McDonald could speak and Commissioner Loftus could finish up by speaking on the landmarking process. Ms. Ramsey stated she will answer questions as well.

Commissioner Manak stated former HPC Commissioner John Schreiber should be invited to which Village Planner Purvis stated she would do this.

E. Old Business

1. Historic Preservation Commissioner Informational Memo, April 2018

Coloring Contest

Village Planner Purvis showed a picture of the Coloring Contest flyer and stated the Historical Society needs to be added to the flyer as they are helping with the prizes. Village Planner Purvis stated for the prizes, the Glen Ellyn Historical Society (GEHS) will be donating 4 tickets to Tavern Days and free family memberships to the Historical Society for each of the 4 winners as well as giving a 10% discount on the prizes purchased at the Historical Society's store.

For the volunteers at the Taste of Glen Ellyn, Commissioners Christiansen and Darga are volunteering on Saturday, and Commissioners Loftus and Veum-Welsh are

volunteering on Sunday. Commissioners Loftus and Veum-Welsh will do the coloring contest judging at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Chairman Marks asked if information about the coloring contest could get into the Glen Ellyn News and the Daily Herald. Commissioner Christiansen stated she would work on this.

Historic Preservation Annual Awards

Village Planner Purvis stated she did receive one more nomination form and is expecting another nomination form soon. Chairman Marks stated there is a home on Highland Avenue built by Ray Whalen Builders that looks like a New England home. It was determined that this work was done in 2018 so this home could be eligible next year for an award.

Chairman Marks stated due to the Preservation Event in May, the HPC will vote on the Historic Preservation Annual Awards at the June meeting. Chairman Marks asked Village Planner Purvis to send an updated list of nominated homes to the HPC so the commissioners can drive by these homes.

New Historic Preservation Brochures

The new brochures were passed out to the commissioners.

Ada Harmon Wild Flower Preserve

Village Planner Purvis showed before and after pictures of the Ada Harmon Wild Flower Preserve and stated the Village's Public Works just completed the restoration of the 1920's structure which used to be a running waterfall. Village Planner Purvis stated Public Works is looking into the cost to possibly make this structure a waterfall once more.

F. Historical Society Business

Chairman Marks stated Glen Ellyn Historical Society (GEHS) Executive Director Hall could not make the meeting as she is ill.

Commissioner Manak stated the 5th Annual Vintage Auto Fest will be Saturday, June 2, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Commissioner Manak stated this is a free event to the public, but car owners will need to pay an entry fee. Commissioner Manak stated there will be educational programs in the History Center basement as well during this fest. Chairman Marks stated the Historical Society is looking for volunteers to help at the auto fest.

G. Chairman's Report

Chairman Marks referred to the memo he passed around regarding the condition of Stacy's Tavern Museum. Chairman Marks stated he walked through Stacy's Tavern, and there are several issues that need to be address including water damage and peeling plaster on the second floor, the foundation and rusting steel support posts in the basement, the replacement of the roof, the needed painting of the exterior and the need to examine the gutters for leaks and overflow. Chairman Marks stated he is concerned about these issues and the need to get these issues resolved.

H. Village Board Trustee Report

Trustee Senak showed a picture of the street resurfacing projects that will happen this summer for Main Street and Park Boulevard. Trustee Senak stated these projects will be done at different times.

Trustee Senak stated the work on the Taylor Street Pedestrian Underpass should start this summer, and the Environmental Commission is working with the Art Institute on possible art or a mural for inside this tunnel.

Trustee Senak stated the Village Board has discussed an ordinance to regulate the interceptors for Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) as well as passing a Tobacco 21 ordinance raising the age to 21 to purchase tobacco products.

Trustee Senak stated the Village Board is working on a resolution that would encourage the lawmakers in Springfield to enact reasonable firearm regulations and legislation.

Trustee Senak stated he is trying to encourage the Village Board to contribute more to mental health programs and facilities. Trustee Senak stated the Village Board did already approve a contribution to the Glen Ellyn Youth and Family Counseling Service; however, he would like to see more done. Commissioner Dieter stated he would like to see more on this, including a possible ordinance.

I. Staff Report

Items were discussed previously in the meeting.

J. Confirmation of Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

Village Planner Purvis stated the next meeting/event will take place on Thursday, May 17, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lake Ellyn Boathouse.

With no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Manak and seconded by Commissioner Christiansen to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously by a voice vote, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Debbie Solomon, Recording Secretary

Reviewed by: Kelly Purvis, Planner