

MINUTES

BOARD/COMMISSION: Historic Preservation

DATE: 11/15/12

MEETING: Regular

CALLED TO ORDER: 7:40 p.m.

QUORUM: Yes

ADJOURNED: 9:35 p.m.

LOCATION: Glen Ellyn Civic Center

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT: Chairman Marks, Commissioners Fisher, Isaac, Manak, Rasnic, Saliamonas, Wilson

EXCUSED: Commissioners Christiansen, Salamunovich

ALSO PRESENT: Staff Liaison Schrader, Recording Secretary Solomon

1. Call to Order

Chairman Marks called the Glen Ellyn Historic Preservation Commission regular meeting to order at 7:40 p.m., in the Civic Center at 535 Duane Street, Glen Ellyn, Illinois. Chairman Marks introduced Dennis Fisher who is the newest Commissioner on the HPC.

2. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Manak pointed out errors on page 1 under the Commissioners Present and on Page 3 #5E which were then corrected. Commissioner Rasnic moved to approve the amended minutes of October 25, 2012, and Commissioner Manak seconded. This motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

3. Public Comments

None.

4. Old Business

A. Residential Landmark Districts

Chairman Marks stated he had discussed with the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency's (IHPA) Catherine O'Connor the Village's interest in pursuing more local landmark districts. Chairman Marks stated he also spoke with Vito Ippolito, of 525 Forest Avenue, whose home was landmarked early in 2012, and he was interested in considering having his home in a local landmark district. Chairman Marks stated Mr. Ippolito will speak with his neighbors in support of this, and some members of the neighborhood will have a coffee with the HPC in early 2013. Chairman Marks stated

this district could include the two Victorians on Forest Avenue, the three homes on the south side of Anthony Street, the home on the northwest corner of Park Boulevard and Anthony Street and the Congregational Church.

Chairman Marks stated there are two other local landmark districts the HPC would like to see developed: on Hillside Avenue, east of Main Street between Main Street and on Forest Avenue, and west Phillips Avenue, west of Main Street.

B. McKee House

Chairman Marks stated they are still trying to save the historic McKee House in Churchill Woods as well as two other buildings which are original buildings in the DuPage County Forest Preserve. He stated Commissioner Wilson, Ms. Gilbert with the Citizens for Glen Ellyn Preservation and himself were at the DuPage County Forest Preserve meeting. Chairman Marks said Ms. Gilbert stated the Citizens group would pay to have the vines removed from the building as well as the gutters cleaned out so the stone on the building does not start to rot. Chairman Marks stated again that this building could be a great community resource and would be a great addition to a historic corridor along the north end of DuPage County, running from the Sheldon Peck House in Lombard to Stacy's Tavern in Glen Ellyn to Kline Creek Farm in West Chicago. Chairman Marks stated he would send a letter to the DuPage Forest Preserve Commissioners in support of saving the McKee House, and Commissioner Rasnic suggested Chairman Marks should also copy DuPage County Board Chairman Dan Cronin on this letter.

5. New Business

A. Historic District Presentation – Granacki Historical Consultants

The Village has accepted the proposal from Granacki Historical Consultants to prepare a National Register of Historic Places nomination for two proposed districts in downtown Glen Ellyn. Vicki Granacki, of Granacki Historical Consultants at 1105 W. Chicago Avenue; Chicago, Illinois, gave a presentation on the landmark designations for the National Register of Historic Places and a local landmark. This presentation included the differences between the two designations, benefits of being listed on the National Register, pictures and overviews of towns/villages for which Granacki Historical Consultants has written nominations, the preliminary map of Glen Ellyn's proposed districts, the difference between contributing and non-contributing buildings in a nomination, the process in which the nomination form is put together and the tentative schedule for the nomination form process.

Commissioner Saliamonas asked if buildings on the National Register can be torn down to which Ms. Granacki stated it can happen, but the best way to prevent it to also make it a local district. Chairman Marks stated the IHPA has said the downtown needs to be split into two districts due to the railroad tracks to which Ms. Granacki stated Hinsdale is one district and was not split into two districts due to railroad tracks through the middle

of their downtown. There were some questions around sustainability restrictions, what parts of the rehabilitation are included, the importance of this for the downtown merchants and examples of towns in the Midwest & New England that have seen benefits from this.

B. Historic Structures Discussion

Staff Liaison Schrader stated in November, the Village sent a grant application to the IHPA for a proposed Architectural Resources Survey. She stated the application was similar to the 2011 application, but information was updated on the Village's landmarking efforts.

C. Potential Landmark Discussion for 408 Phillips Avenue – Ruth Home

Chairman Marks stated 408 Phillips Avenue is a great Arts & Crafts Bungalow. Commissioner Manak stated he tried to talk to the owner, but no one was home. Chairman Marks stated this is a great example of this type of home. Staff Liaison Schrader stated she gave the homeowner an application two weeks ago, and the homeowner said she would complete the application after the holidays.

D. Ackerman House Update

Chairman Marks has not yet been able to meet with the new owner of the Ackerman House, Mr. Masood Shaik. Chairman Marks did talk with the IHPA's Andrew Heckenkamp about nominating the home for the national register and will drop a copy of the form for the tax credit off for Mr. Shaik. Chairman Marks stated he has seen a lot of workers at the house, and the workers have already put in new vinyl windows. Chairman Marks stated there could be a possibility of an archaeological dig at the house at some point.

E. Lake Ellyn Master Plan Update

Chairman Marks stated he has been going to the meetings for this and gave a recap of the first two meetings again. He stated he is very impressed with the hired consultants as they want to protect the architectural integrity of the Boathouse and the history of the park and lake area. He talked about some of the possible changes: restrooms; leveling the ground to the lake; exposing the Boathouse's original beam ceiling. Audience participant Mike Wilson stated he has also been going to these meetings and will take an architect friend for a walk-through of the Boathouse on Monday. There was a discussion around the parking issues.

F. 2013 Goals

Chairman Marks stated they will discuss the HPC's 2013 goals at the January meeting. He stated the creation of local landmark districts was an important goal from 2012 which will carry into 2013.

G. Other Business

Chairman Marks stated another possible home for landmarking is the ranch house at 250 Regent Street and encouraged the HPC to drive by the house. Chairman Marks stated the other possible home for landmarking is the Victorian home at 754 Lenox Road. Chairman Marks stated he would talk to the owner again after the holidays.

6. Historical Society Business

Chairman Marks stated there will be a Holiday Open House at Stacy's Corner Store on Sunday, November 18, 2012 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

7. Chairman's Report

None.

8. Trustee Liaison's Report

None.

9. Staff Report

Staff Liaison Schrader will be the HPC's Staff Liaison now. Chairman Marks gave Ms. Schrader an Emerald Ash Borer article (from Gurnee) as he indicated he has been getting many questions from residents. Ms. Schrader stated the ash trees were evaluated and rated, and trees rated favorably were treated to prevent EAB infestation. Chairman Marks stated he does not think residents are aware of the treatment program. Staff Liaison Schrader noted that articles have been included in Glen Ellyn publications like the weekly eNews, but staff can consider additional future articles.

Ms. Schrader stated the referendum passed for electrical aggregation, and the Village will receive bids on November 26, 2012 for the supply of electricity. She stated this program should be ready to go in late February or early March if bids come back favorably in late November.

Ms. Schrader stated the Village will be updating their website for navigational purpose as well as aesthetics. She will be discussing with the HPC in the future information they would like on their webpage.

Commissioner Rasnic asked about the monthly demolition report to which Ms. Schrader stated since the HPC met early this month, this report is not ready yet. Commissioner Rasnic saw two more houses with fences around them, one at 401 Bryant Avenue. Chairman Marks stated some towns in the Chicago area do have an ordinance on residential demolition which state that if you are going to tear something down, you need to put something up with fits in with the streetscape. Commissioner Rasnic stated he would like to see a variance that includes going before the Village Board if an owner wants to tear down a home. It was suggested that Commissioner Rasnic's idea possibly be a part of the 2013 HPC goals. Commissioner Saliamonas stated maybe adding a zoning variation to deal with possible environmental impacts of tearing down homes.

Commissioner Rasnic asked about the December 1st Town Hall Meeting to which Commissioners Wilson and Isaac provided information on the slate of candidates for Village President, Village Clerk and Village Board and Library Trustees. Commissioner Wilson stated the names and videos of the candidates can be found on the Civic Betterment website.

10. Confirmation of Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

Chairman Marks stated the December HPC meeting will be cancelled; therefore the next meeting will take place on Thursday, January 24, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

With no further business, Chairman Marks asked for a motion of adjournment. Commissioner Manak motioned for adjournment, and Commissioner Saliamonas seconded. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 7-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Submitted by: Debbie Solomon, Recording Secretary

Reviewed by: Kristen Schrader, Staff Liaison