

MINUTES

BOARD/COMMISSION: Historic Preservation

DATE: 6/27/13

MEETING: Regular

CALLED TO ORDER: 7:36 p.m.

QUORUM: Yes

ADJOURNED: 9:23 p.m.

LOCATION: Glen Ellyn Civic Center

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT: Chairman Marks, Commissioners Christiansen, Fisher, Loftus, Manak, Rasnic, Wilson, Student Commissioner Davis

EXCUSED: Commissioner Saliamonas

ALSO PRESENT: Assistant to the Village Manager Schrader, Trustee Liaison McGinley, Recording Secretary Solomon

1. Call to Order

Chairman Marks called the Glen Ellyn Historic Preservation Commission regular meeting to order at 7:36 p.m., in the Civic Center at 535 Duane Street, Glen Ellyn, Illinois.

2. Approval of May 23, 2013 Minutes

Commissioner Rasnic moved to approve the minutes of May 23, 2013, and Commissioner Manak seconded. This motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

3. Public Comment

None

4. Old Business

A. McKee House

Chairman Marks stated there was another meeting of the Forest Preserve District, and there is a ground swell of support to keep the McKee House standing. He stated several people spoke in favor of the importance of saving the McKee House. He stated the Forest Preserve District will have a preservation architect assess the house.

B. Village Demolition Report

There was a discussion about the HPC getting notice about demolition permits so the HPC could possibly save any historically-significant homes. Assistant to the Village Manager Schrader stated she included 2 different proposed letters in the HPC's packet, 1 that will be given to the owners of significant and possibly significant homes who have applied for permits and a letter that will be sent informing the homeowners of significant or possibly significant homes of their general significance with the hope that these homes will be landmarked. The HPC agreed to try these letters.

5. New Business

A. 644 N. Main Street – Landmark Property Nomination

Robert and Elizabeth Lambert own the Queen Anne home at 644 N. Main Street, which was built in 1904. Ms. Lambert was present at the meeting. All the Commissioners agreed the home is a great example of the Queen Anne Victorian style and should be nominated for landmark status. Commissioner Manak asked if the vinyl windows might be an issue for landmark status, and Ms. Lambert stated the original windows are there, and the vinyl is only the storm windows. Commissioner Wilson asked if the garage was original to which Ms. Lambert stated the garage was built in the 1960's. Commissioner Christiansen stated the owners had great supporting documentation. Chairman Marks stated the home's originality has been maintained, and the home is plaqued by the Glen Ellyn Historical Society.

Chairman Marks asked for a motion to recommend preliminary determination of landmark status for the property at 644 N. Main Street. Commissioner Rasnic made the motion, under criteria numbers 1, 3, 4 and 5 on the application.

1. Its value as an example of the architectural, cultural, economic, historic, social or other aspect of the heritage of the Village of Glen Ellyn, the State of Illinois, or the United States;
2. Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to architectural, cultural, economic, historic, social or other aspect of the development of the Village of Glen Ellyn, the State of Illinois, or the United States;
3. Its exemplification of an architectural type or style distinguished by innovation, rarity, uniqueness or overall quality of design, detail, materials or craftsmanship;
4. Its representation of an architectural, cultural, economic, historic, social or other theme expressed through distinctive areas, districts, places, buildings, structures, works of art or other objects that may or may not be contiguous.

Commissioner Manak seconded, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0. Assistant to the Village Manager Schrader communicated the next steps to Ms. Lambert.

B. Insurance Coverage – Landmarked Properties

Commissioner Manak referred to the memo he had written and stated he had recently become aware that some insurers decline to write policies on landmarked properties. He stated he called Suzanne Germann, Director of Grants and Easements at Landmarks Illinois, and Ms. Germann said this is a national problem that seems to be abating as there were concerns with decided replacement costs. Commissioner Manak stated Ms. Germann said there were at least 2 companies that will not insure landmarked properties, but there are at least 7 companies that will insure. Commissioner Manak led a discussion about this concern, and Trustee McGinley stated there could be a footnote on the landmark application to encourage landmarking homeowners to notify their insurance coverage to double-check if there are any additional steps that need to be taken. Assistant to the Village Manager Schrader stated she will add this footnote to the form and email the updated form to the HPC.

C. Sign Proposal for Informational and Merchant Signs

Chairman Marks stated he wrote a proposal memo and read it to the HPC. Commissioner Loftus passed around color pictures of current signs in the Village. Chairman Marks referred to the metal sign example that the Public Works Department made. Commissioner Loftus stated the initial costs of metal signs could be high, but could be cheaper down the road due to less maintenance required. Trustee McGinley stated she talked to President Demos who does want the HPC involved in this. Chairman Marks stated the Village could go with metal signs or weather-resistant wooden outdoor signs. Student Commissioner Davis stated the Village could do the wooden signs with metal finials that would be more weather-resistant than wooden finials, and the HPC agreed with this.

D. Joel Wyant House in West Chicago

Chairman Marks stated he spoke in West Chicago in support of saving the Joel Wyant House as the Village of West Chicago is considering tearing the home down. He stated the home is a great example of the Second Empire style. He stated there were newspaper articles on the table that the HPC could read.

E. Privy behind Stacy's Tavern

Chairman Marks stated the roof on the privy behind Stacy's Tavern needs to be reroofed which the Glen Ellyn Historical Society (GEHS) will pay for. He stated this work is coming to the HPC to review the bid and proposed work and pass on comments to the Village

for final approval. He stated the GEHS received 2 bids for this work which the HPC debated. There was a discussion regarding repair work on a landmarked property to ensure correct procedure.

Commissioner Manak made a motion to recommend the bid from Roger Olson be the successful bid taken by the Glen Ellyn Historical Society for the repair and maintenance of the privy behind Stacy's Tavern. Commissioner Christiansen seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

F. Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Council Meeting

Chairman Marks stated the Glen Ellyn nomination for the National Register of Historic Places will be on Friday, June 28, 2013 in Evanston. He stated the morning session will be called to order at 10:15 a.m., and Glen Ellyn scheduled to be reviewed as number four.

6. Historical Society Business

None

7. Chairman's Report

None

8. Trustee Liaison's Report

Trustee McGinley stated the Board is conducting Public Hearings about the TIF on Roosevelt Road in order to get the residents more comfortable with this TIF. She stated the new Board will be doing a retreat to talk about the Village's goals and things to accomplish in the next 2 years. She stated she would bring up the HPC's concerns over the demolitions that are happening.

9. Staff Report

None

10. Confirmation of Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

Chairman Marks stated the next meeting will take place on Thursday, July 25, 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 Rasnic seconded.

The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 8-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Submitted by: Debbie Solomon, Recording Secretary

Reviewed by: Kristen Schrader, Staff Liaison