

MINUTES

BOARD/COMMISSION: Historic Preservation

DATE: 8/28/14

MEETING: Regular

CALLED TO ORDER: 7:35 p.m.

QUORUM: Yes

ADJOURNED: 9:35 p.m.

LOCATION: Glen Ellyn Civic Center

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT: Chairman Marks, Commissioners Christiansen, Dieter, Fisher, Loftus, Manak, Saliamonas, Schreiber, Student Commissioner Davis

EXCUSED: Commissioners Wilson

ALSO PRESENT: Planning Intern Parisi, Trustee Liaison McGinley, Recording Secretary Solomon

1. Call to Order

Chairman Marks called the Glen Ellyn Historic Preservation Commission regular meeting to order at 7:35 p.m., in the Civic Center at 535 Duane Street, Glen Ellyn, Illinois.

2. Approval of May 22, 2014 and August 4, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Schreiber moved to approve the minutes of August 4, 2014, and Commissioner Christiansen seconded. This motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0 as Commissioner Manak abstained from the vote as he was not at this meeting.

The minutes from May 22, 2014 were reviewed and tabled until Commissioner Dieter could add more detail on what he spoke about at this meeting.

3. Public Comments

None

4. Old Business

None

5. New Business

A. 636 N. Park Boulevard – Potential Landmark

Chairman Marks stated Commissioner Schreiber and he did tour the home with the potential buyers, the Rowes. He stated in their opinion, they think the home is structurally sound. Commissioner Schreiber stated he saw no reason to tear this home down. Chairman Marks stated there are some water leakage issues, but these could be fixed. Commissioner Manak passed around pictures he had taken of the home.

Commissioner Manak made a motion to tentatively consider the home at 636 N. Park Boulevard for landmarking in the future, and Commissioner Saliamonas seconded. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

B. 574 N. Main Street - Landmarked Property Proposed Updates

Chairman Marks stated the home owners would like to reroof the garage to match the new gazebo that was just added to the exterior of the home. Commissioner Manak stated the proposed shingles look good. Commissioner Schreiber stated the proposed shingle is not used on Victorian houses, but he has no problem with this. Chairman Marks stated the homeowners are doing great work on this house and the out-buildings.

Commissioner Schreiber made a motion to approve the plans for the proposed updates to the landmarked property at 574 N. Main Street, and Commissioner Manak seconded. The motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

C. Landmarks Illinois Historical Tax Credit Workshop

Chairman Marks stated they would still like to bring in Lisa DiChiera of Landmarks Illinois to do a tax credit workshop for the property owners in the two downtown landmark districts to explain how to apply for these tax credits and what is covered among other topics. He stated there was a program in Aurora on August 7, 2014.

D. Young's Appliance Sign Restoration

Ms. Parisi stated the petitioner has started the application process with the appropriate commissions for a sign variation on the proposed restoration of the Young's Appliance sign. She stated the petitioner is trying to repair all surfaces on the sign to their original condition as well as repair all illumination and neon. Ms. Parisi stated the petitioner was asking about any possible grant funding to restore this sign. Chairman Marks suggested calling Lisa DiChiera at Landmarks Illinois about this, and Commissioner Loftus suggested the Graham Foundation.

Commissioner Manak made a motion that the Historic Preservation Commission supports the proposed design as submitted for the Young's Appliance sign renovation as the design is tasteful and appropriate, and Commissioner Schreiber seconded. The motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

E. Restoration/Renovation Awards

Commissioner Manak stated that Commissioner Loftus and he could not come to an agreement on these awards. There was a discussion regarding the award names and definitions. Chairman Marks stated that if they are following the National Register guidelines, the houses do need to be at least 50 years old. It was decided to rename the Renovation of the Year Award the Remodeling Project of the Year Award. It was also decided to add the following sentence to all award definitions, except the Streetscape Award: "In order to qualify for an award, a home must be 50 years or older." For the Streetscape Award, we will add the following sentence to the definition: "A home can be of any age to qualify for this award."

Commissioner Schreiber made a motion to approve the name change of the Renovation Award to the Remodeling Project of the Year Award, and Commissioner Christiansen seconded. The motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

Commissioner Loftus made a motion to approve to change the definition body copy for all four awards with the award name change and sentences added for clarification, and Commissioner Schreiber seconded. The motion carried unanimously by a vote of 7-0.

F. National Trust Report

Chairman Marks asked if there were hard copies of the National Trust report entitled *Older, Smaller, Better: Measuring how the Character of Buildings and Blocks Influences Vitality* that all the commissioners could see. Ms. Parisi will send out the link again for this report.

G. Newspaper Articles

Chairman Marks brought several newspaper articles in that could be of interest to the commissioners.

1. "Historic 1840's Structure in St. Charles Moved Again to Green Space"
2. "A Shared Space to Pause, Partake"
3. "Improved Economy Bad News for Historic Homes"

Commissioner Dieter entered the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

H. ARC Commission Update

Commissioner Dieter stated at the previous evening's meeting, the Architectural Review Commission discussed and approved parking lot improvements at Glen Oak Country Club. Commissioner Loftus stated the commission also discussed the Beijing's Restaurant becoming a Hardee's Restaurant.

6. Historical Society Business

Chairman Marks stated Tavern Days will be Sunday, September 28th at Stacy's Tavern. He stated the Glen Ellyn Historical Society does have about six applicants for the Executive Director position, and Jane Rio is the Interim Executive Director for the time being. He stated they do need tour guides for the History Center.

7. Chairman's Report

Chairman Marks stated the home at 601 Euclid Avenue on the northeast corner of Euclid and Hawthorne is going to be saved and not torn down.

8. Trustee Liaison's Report

Trustee Liaison McGinley stated Kristen Schrader has resigned her position, and Ms. Parisi passed around a thank-you note from Kristen for the baby gift. Trustee Liaison McGinley stated the Village Board is currently working on the 2015 budget. She stated there are two more surveys that need to be done for the Village, and Intern Justin is working with Granacki on these. Commissioner Loftus stated Vicki Granacki is retiring, and Lara Ramsey and her sister will continue with the historic consulting work.

9. Staff Report

Ms. Parisi passed around the initial idea report for the Giesche building project, and there was a discussion regarding what the Commissioners would like to see for this building. Trustee Liaison McGinley stated nothing has been approved yet, and Chairman Marks stated the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA) is concerned about the possible size and height of this building. Several commissioners expressed their concerns about the possibility of a 5-story building in the downtown area.

Chairman Marks passed around a short narrative he wrote on the Crescent Boulevard/McChesney & Miller Redevelopment Project that he asked to be entered into the minutes. He stated this is his thoughts on the projects after speaking with the IHPA. There was a discussion regarding this narrative and how the HPC could help with these projects.

Commissioner Manak asked for a copy of the latest Architectural Survey which Ms. Parisi will get to him.

10. Confirmation of Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

Chairman Marks stated the next meeting will take place on Thursday, September 25, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.

With no further business, Chairman Marks asked for a motion of adjournment. Commissioner Christiansen motioned for adjournment, and Commissioner Dieter seconded. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 8-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Submitted by: Debbie Solomon, Recording Secretary