

MINUTES

BOARD/COMMISSION: Historic Preservation
Commission

DATE: 6/16/16

MEETING: Regular

CALLED TO ORDER:

QUORUM: No

ADJOURNED:

LOCATION: Glen Ellyn Civic Center

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT:

Leland F. Marks	Chairman
Dennis A. Fisher	Commissioner
Christine C. Wilson	Commissioner
James P. Manak	Commissioner

EXCUSED:

Kelli E. Christiansen	Commissioner
Robert S. Dieter	Commissioner
Tim F. Loftus	Commissioner
Eleanor B. Saliamonas	Commissioner
John B. Schreiber	Commissioner

ALSO PRESENT:

Mark Senak	Trustee Liaison
William Kolschowski	Planning Intern
Karen Hall	Historical Society

1. Meeting Discussion:

a. Discussion about Awards and Landmarking properties:

Chairman Marks discussed the appearance of the Restoration Award Winner signs with Intern Kolschowski. Chairman Marks asked Commissioner Wilson to talk about the signs for Preserve Glen Ellyn.

Commissioner Wilson explains Preserve Glen Ellyn: there have been several different types of surveys and studies done giving us a list of the significant homes in Glen Ellyn, rated at different levels of significance. We have used that information to contact people during Historic Preservation Month to put signs in their yards recognizing the property's significance. It is easy then to ask people if they have an interest in landmarking their property. We had four people this year,

one of which is going to be landmarked: 599 Hawthorne, a white Dutch colonial by the Lake. We also may have one on Crescent.

Chairman Marks: 221 Traver, west of Lorraine and South of Hill, I got to meet the owner. I offered to write an ad to help sell the home and they would be interested in Landmarking the property.

Commissioner Manak: Update on 416 Ridgewood? Sold at the beginning of the month for \$300,000 to a family from Connecticut with four kids. They love the house and addition and have begun doing some of the necessary repair work. They are talking about possibly extending the front porch. I let her know that it would alter the façade and would need to come before the Commission.

Chairman Marks: Would they be eligible for the tax freeze if they are putting money into renovating the house?

Commissioner Wilson: Sure.

Chairman Marks: I think we should at least mention it to them, we can give a call and get an opinion from Springfield.

Commissioner Manak: I will find out. I will be talking to the owners on Ridgewood. I am sure they would be thrilled.

Chairman Marks: Anything else significant to add before we wrap this up?

b. Discussion about Commission vacancies:

Commissioner Fisher: I know finding people to fill vacancies is hard. On my credit union board, we have associate board members, people that sit in and have an interest. That way when there is a vacancy that person can move right in without much of a learning curve. I don't know if that is something you all would consider?

Chairman Marks: What Board is this again Dennis?

Commissioner Fisher: Credit Union Board, a governmental body.

Chairman Marks: Are the Associate Members non-voting then?

Commissioner Fisher: Yes, they are non-voting.

Chairman Marks: So, they sit in on the meeting listen and render an opinion?

Commissioner Fisher: Yes

Chairman Marks: That is an interesting concept.

c. Discussion about Tree Preservation awards:

Commissioner Fisher: Is the environmental commission stalling on the tree preservation award topic?

Chairman Marks: There had been discussion at a past meeting about the Environmental Commission taking the lead on that. But if the Environmental Commission does not move forward with it I feel that we should take that back into our hands. We have valid reasons for wanting it to be recognized; the Village values people saving older trees.

Commissioner Manak: A lot of time has gone by. It's been more than 7 months since we discussed taking this back from the Environmental Commission. We don't have a quorum, but I think we ought to put this on the Agenda for the next meeting.

d. Discussion about Village way-finding signage:

Chairman Marks: I was talking to Cody Sherriff at the Village, he mentioned something about a black background on the way-finding signage. What we have always had is dark brown. I want to make sure that the Village knows that we selected that based off of a historic New England sign.

Trustee Senak: Every now and then that comes to the Board for review. The Board selected the design, I think it is black in the renderings.

Chairman Marks: Historically it's a dark brown sign.

e. Discussion about the Village lights downtown:

Commissioner Fisher: What about the lighting situation?

Trustee Senak: No progress or change on that since we last talked. The good news is that they have not moved forward. I get the sense that they are going to reconsider.

f. Discussion of upcoming development projects:

Chairman Marks: The other question people keep asking around town is about the Geische and McChesney properties, anything?

Trustee Senak: Opus has submitted a new proposal to the Board and Village Planning Staff. We are waiting to hear what changes there are. McChesney continues to move forward. They are currently seeking a place to relocate Barone's and the garage on the corner. I don't think Glen Oak Restaurant is going to participate.

Commissioner Manak: Any hint about the Opus project about the height?

Trustee Senak: The only memo I saw is that they continue to be willing to listen to suggestions.

Chairman Marks: Everyone in town continues to object to the height.

Trustee Senak: I think you will see McChesney get done before Opus.

Commissioner Wilson: I don't see how we can support both of them.

Commissioner Manak: We won't I'm sure.

Commissioner Wilson: It's amazing that Opus would try to come in with the other one. There will be a lot of apartments.

Chairman Marks: The business owners on Main Street are all scared. It's going to hurt business if there is no place to park. It is a nightmare for all of those people, I feel bad for them.

Commissioner Manak: We know they are aware that the height is an issue, but have they done anything about it at this point?

Trustee Senak: They have acknowledged that it's an issue but there have not been any changes to plans.

Commissioner Manak: Then it's dead in the water.

g. An Update from the Historical Society:

Chairman Marks: Karen, how about an update from the Historical Society?

Karen Hall: This is a slower time for us, but we have our book club coming up in July that will discuss a book on cartographic crimes. We will have a very busy fall, we kick that off at the beginning of August. I will update you on that later.

Chairman Marks: Do you have any information on the quilt show? Do we know how successful it was?

Karen Hall: I don't have the numbers in front of me. It did bring a lot more people in to the museum and Stacy's Corners. I don't know how much of a financial benefit it had, but it definitely brought more people to see the museum. I think it was successful and people really appreciated the quality of work. One of the things that this brought to our attention was the need to get some more color into the museum. We may be looking for some age appropriate quilts from this time period to brighten things up a bit.

Chairman Marks: Anything else before we close this up? I am sorry we didn't have more people.

Trustee Senak: It was a nice discussion.

Chairman Marks: Thank you all for coming.