

MINUTES
Historic Preservation Commission
March 4, 2004
Municipal Complex
100 W. Woodstock Street, Crystal Lake, IL

I. Call To Order

Chairperson Keller called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. on March 4, 2004, at the Municipal Complex, 100 W. Woodstock Street.

II. Roll Call/Attendance

Present were the following Commission members: Greg Keller, Chairperson, Brice Alt, Tom Nemcek, and Sue Riegler. Also present was Eric Helm, Administrative Assistant to the City Manager.

III. Public Presentation

There was no one in the public who wished to give a presentation.

IV. Approval of Minutes of the February 5, 2004, Regular Meeting

Member Riegler stated that the name Sandy Boza in Section II, Roll Call/Attendance, should be deleted, and the name Mary Oberhart should be added to the section. Member Nemcek moved to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2004 meeting, as amended. Member Riegler seconded the motion. On voice vote, all voted aye. Motion passed.

V. Discussion of Raue House Historic Landmark Status

Chair Keller stated that the public hearing regarding the Raue House Landmark status has been continued to Thursday, April 1, 2004. Member Nemcek said the Raue house has aluminum siding. He asked what the Commission is protecting when it landmarks a historic structure? Member Alt said the Commission may landmark a house based upon who lived in the house. Chair Keller said the Commission is protecting the house that Mr. Raue lived in. Member Riegler said the Commission is protecting what exists today, with the hopes that in the future it will be further restored. Member Nemcek and Chair Keller said the Commission might have to be flexible about which structures it considers for landmark status, since the available pool is small. Member Riegler recommended developing a scorecard to grade landmark applicants. Member Keller said the Commission would discuss the Raue house siding, windows and porch at the public meeting next month.

VI. Discussion of Certificate of Appropriateness Guidelines

Chair Keller said everything requiring a building permit, including siding, should need a certificate of appropriateness, but he would like to give homeowners a fair amount of discretion. Member Nemcek said guidelines would assist the homeowners in thinking along certain lines. Member Riegler said she wants user-friendly guidelines. Chair Keller said the Commission should be strict on major improvements, but lenient on smaller improvements. Discussion occurred regarding acceptable replacement materials for the exterior of landmarked structures. Member Nemcek said that plastic should be discouraged as a replacement material on plaqued houses.

VII. Discussion of the 2004 Heritage Tour

Everyone present responded that they read the spreadsheet sent by Member Nemcek. The Commission went through the Tour booklet provided by Member Kenney. The Commission discussed each house and the responsibilities of each Commission member. Chair Keller asked about historic information on the library. Member Riegler said she is working on this information. Chair Keller asked when articles are due. Member Nemcek said they should be provided to Member Kenney by the beginning of April. He also said that publicity should be lined up by the next meeting. Member Riegler asked if the Commission would need a permit for the Heritage Tour banner. Eric Helm, City staff representative, said he would look into this.

VIII. Member Inquiries and Reports

City Staff said the website should be completed by next meeting, and the Commission will be able to view it at the meeting.

IX. Chair's Report

Chair Keller announced the McHenry County Historical Society meeting and the Joint Council of Historical Groups meeting.

X. Adjournment

There being no further business, Member Nemcek moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. Member Riegler seconded the motion. On voice vote, all voted aye; motion passed.