

**MINUTES**  
**Historic Preservation Commission**  
**October 5, 2006**  
**Municipal Complex, 100 W. Woodstock Street, Crystal Lake, IL**

**I. Call To Order**

Member Price, standing in for Chair Alt, called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. on October 5, 2006, at the Municipal Complex, 100 W. Woodstock Street.

**II. Roll Call/Attendance**

Present were the following Commission members: Chairperson Brice Alt (arrived during public presentations), LeeAnn Atwood, Sandy Price, Diana Kenney, Tom Nemcek, Michelle Rozovics and Bob Wyman. Also present was Pam Wyman, Michael Czosnyka, Chris O'Conner and Eric Helm, Assistant to the City Manager.

**III. Public Presentations**

Mr. Czosnyka and Mr. O'Conner of the Union Soldier Restoration Committee made a public presentation regarding the Union Cemetery Soldier statue. The Restoration Committee would like to remove the statue before it falls. The Committee goals are to restore the statue, including its internal structure, and install a flagpole, lighting and landscaping. The fundraising campaign will ask the public to purchase bricks in honor of a veteran. Mr. Czosnyka stated that the total cost of the project is approximately \$125,000. Currently, they have raised \$1,300. In response to Commission questions, he stated that the rifle would be recreated as closely as possible to the original. Member Wyman would like the Restoration Committee to make a presentation before the Knights of Columbus. Member Kenney also recommended that they make a public presentation before the City Council. Member Nemcek made a motion to give \$1,000 to the restoration efforts. Member Price seconded the motion. Upon discussion, the Commission felt that a smaller amount should be approved. Staff Member Helm informed the Commission that the Commission's current account balance is \$3,135.29, which includes outstanding obligations for façade grant awards. Member Nemcek amended his motion, and moved to give \$500 to the Restoration Fund. Member Price seconded the motion. On voice vote, all voted aye. Motion passed.

**IV. Discussion of Façade Grant Disbursement Request for 84 N. Walkup**

The Commission reviewed a request for a façade grant reimbursement from the owner of 84 N. Walkup. Member Rozovics stated that the owners did a nice job painting the home. The Commission reviewed the receipts from the owner demonstrating that the repair was completed per the application. Member Kenney moved to approve 50% of the repair costs or \$500.00, which represents the maximum allowable grant award. Member Price seconded the motion. On voice vote, all voted aye. Motion passed.

**V. Approval of Minutes of the September 7, 2006 Regular Meeting**

Member Kenney moved to approve the minutes of the August 3, 2006 meeting. Member Price seconded the motion. On voice vote, all voted aye. Members Atwood and Rozovics abstained. Motion passed.

**VI. Public Hearing for Landmark Application for 135 College Street**

Chair Alt opened the public hearing to discuss the landmark application for the property at 135 College Street. The Commission reviewed the information provided by the City's Planning and Economic Development Department that documented the historical, architectural and aesthetic significance of the property. Member Kenney stated that the historical name of the property should be used on the plaque. Member Rozovics stated that confusion might occur if two landmarked properties have the same name, in this case, two Van Natta houses. Member Kenney stated that the name of the plaque should represent the reason it was landmarked. Some properties are landmarked based on the architecture and some are landmarked due to the property's historical significance. The Commission concluded that the property at 135 College Street should be referred to as the "Van Natta House, South".

Discussion then occurred regarding the garage and whether this structure should be landmarked along with the home. The applicants, Mr. and Mrs. Wyman, stated that they wanted the garage landmarked along with the house. The Commission agreed and Member Kenney moved to recommend to the City Council approval of the application for landmark status for 135 College Street, including the house and garage, and the adoption of an ordinance designating 135 College Street as a historic landmark. Member Nemcek seconded the motion. On voice vote, all voted aye. Motion passed.

**VII. Discussion of 2007 Heritage Tour**

Chair Alt updated the Commission regarding his attempts to contact homeowners on Ringling Road. It is the Commission's goal to have 4-5 homes on the tour. Member Atwood and Chair Alt agreed to contact various homeowners in the Ringling neighborhood to invite them to participate in the tour. The Commission will organize an informational meeting later in the year to invite prospective tour homeowners to answer their questions regarding the tour. Also, the meeting will be used to outline what is expected of each homeowner during the tour. It was agreed that the meeting should occur at the Dole Mansion or another area home. Member Nemcek and Kenney explained the various aspects of the tour.

**VIII. Discussion of Design Guidelines for Certificate of Appropriateness**

Member Nemcek continued to collect comments from Commissioners regarding the guidelines. He stated that the document continues to exist in draft form. The draft was also distributed to Member Rozovics and Atwood for review by the next meeting. City staff member Helm also would like additional time for City staff review. The Commission discussed whether the document should be given to the owners of landmarked homes. City staff member Helm stated the Commission should consider sending the guidelines to homeowners since the Commission should be upfront with present or prospective owners of landmarked properties. Member Kenney and Alt reiterated that the document is meant to be only a guide for property owners.

**IX. Member Inquiries and Reports**

Member Price distributed a draft letter to recruit prospective landmark properties. Commission members gave their comments regarding the letter and commended Member Price on her efforts. It was mentioned that the letter should be changed to address the "historic home", not the "historic site or property". She stated that the Commission should establish a goal to plaque two houses a year. Also, the Commission changed the façade grant language to state that landmarked properties "may" be eligible for up to \$500 for façade improvements.

Member Nemcek stated that the Commission might have difficulty funding future façade grant requests. Member Atwood asked if the City could fund Commission projects. Member Kenney stated that if the Commission had a specific project in mind, it could request funding from the City.

Regarding the CLG matching grant, Member Kenney and City staff member Helm stated that the grant funding could be used to fund a UIC housing study that is being organized by the City's Planning and Economic Development Department. The Commission expressed concern with the study's completion timeline. City staff member Helm stated that the UIC staff could meet with the Commission and discuss the project in further detail. The Commission felt that the study was a good candidate for the CLG matching grant. City staff member Helm agreed to complete the application.

Member Kenney reported on the Historical Society Cemetery walk and distributed the Cemetery walk booklets.

**X. Chair's Report**

There was no report.

**XI. Adjournment**

There being no further business, Member Nemcek moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:22 p.m. Member Wyman seconded the motion. On voice vote, all voted aye. Motion passed.