

2007 HERITAGE/TROLLEY TOUR

First Meeting of 2007 Heritage/Trolley Tour Committee (01/14/07)

In Attendance:

Sandra Price, Bob Wyman, Diana Kenney, Brice Alt, Lee Ann Atwood, Michelle Rozovics, & Tom Nemcek

Minutes:

The meeting began with Bob handing out the research he put together on the various trolley companies on cost, availability, advertising, etc. All members then piled in the Wyman van and began driving the proposed route. Diana Kenney described how she envisions the tour moving and what historical buildings could be included. The trolley pickup/drop-off point would be next to Pop's Corn Crib. It would move south down Williams Street to Crystal Lake Avenue and turn west to Caroline Street. It would continue south down Caroline Street toward Central High School. On Franklin the trolley would turn west again to College Avenue. It would head south on College to University and turn right. It would then turn left and head south down McHenry Avenue. At Route 14 the trolley would turn right and head west to Dole Avenue. At Dole it would turn right on Pierson Street and left on Lake Shore Avenue moving back to Dole where it would turn right again and head toward the Dole Mansion. The trolley would turn around at the Mansion and head back to the start via Dole Avenue and Woodstock Street. The 2 dry runs that were done at between 5 and 10 mph and those low speeds made the tour last about 40 to 45 minutes. It was agreed that this was a good tour time to allow 15 minutes for people to get on and off the trolley.

Possible stops along the trolley tour were discussed to allow the riders to hear more fascinating trivia and be spellbound by tales of Crystal Lake history and architecture. Eight short stops were proposed: stop at El Tovar, stop at Jerry's house, stop at the Pump House, stop at Bob's house, stop at Taco Bell, stop at Leonard Parkway, and 2 stops at the Dole Mansion.

Some of the possible historical sites to be included that were discussed were: general Crystal Lake history to open the tour, Train Depot, Marshall

Building, Terra Cotta factory, Warner Building, Home State Bank, Raue Hardware, El Tovar, Dr Hull's House, Raue House, Rosenthal House, Crystal Lake Central High School, Union School, Pump House, German Lutheran School (Wyman & Penkava Houses), Emmanuel Lutheran Church/School, Jaster Building, St Thomas Church/School, First Congregational Church, Sels House, Leonard Hotel, Main Beach, Dole Mansion, the ice houses, the country club, railroad tracks down Dole, the pickle factory, Peterson House, & Union Cemetery.

After the driving part was over all the members went to one of Crystal Lake's favorite breakfast places (The Olympic) to discuss how the next moves. Although much was discussed about advertising, the tour booklet, schedules, tickets, etc., the majority of the time was spent deciding which trolley company to go with. The consensus was to go with the Trolley and Bus Company out of Bensenville. The cost was the lowest; they offered simple advertisement poster attachment; the day we needed; air conditioning; and 2 trolley availability.

ACTION ITEMS:

Bob will secure the trolley company for that date (June 10), and we will make the formal motions necessary at the next Commission meeting in February to finalize it.

Chairman's Corner:

A huge thanks goes out to Mr. Wyman for spending all the time researching a bunch of trolley companies. He had it all down in spreadsheet format for all to understand. This was a great aid in driving to a well thought out decision. Some more love goes out to Diana for putting together a possible route and a list of possible topics for the tour guide's script. After listening to the general discussion and doing the 2 dry runs, we are in for some work and planning to pull this off. It's our first time with this so we can't overplan. At February's Commission meeting I want to schedule a planning meeting at my house to get the ball really moving forward. So please think about a good day and time. The drinks and snacks are on me!

Peace & Love,

Tom Nemcek

2003 Heritage/Trolley Tour Chairman