

**MINUTES**  
**Historic Preservation Commission**  
**May 6, 2021**  
**City Hall, 100 W. Woodstock Street, Crystal Lake, IL**

**1) Call to Order**

L. Solak called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**2) Roll Call/Attendance**

The following Commission members were present, Hamilton Hale, Judi Halter, Nancy Haskins, Diana Kenney, Brittany Niequist, Lisa Solak, Bob Wyman and Jim Wyman. Staff member Elizabeth Maxwell was present. Ian Philpot, Brett Hopkins and Mitchell Hopkins were in the audience.

L. Solak moved item 5 next in the order

**5) Grant Disbursement – Lake Avenue Cemetery**

Mitchell Hopkins was present to present the Eagle Scout cleaning project. He went through a slideshow. The images were from before any cleaning was done and then 1 to 2 weeks after. The changes to the stones was amazing. D. Kenney noted that she was at the cemetery checking the condition of stones and the ones they cleaned look great. It was such an amazing project that really made an impact. H. Hale was so proud of Mitchell and all the volunteers. He said they brought these people back because you are not really dead until people stop using your name and now people can see some of the people buried there. Mitchell explained the process that you spray the product on, wait then scrub it then rinse it with water. You can then spray it again and let it sit. As you leave it, the buildup gets less and the stones get whiter and whiter. He noted that he dropped off the excess supplies to the Raue House. Mitchell did not have the receipts so the item will be brought forward at the next meeting for the actual vote on the disbursement.

**3) Public Comment**

None.

**4) Approval of Minutes of the April 1, 2021 Regular Meeting**

D. Kenney made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 1, 2021 regular meeting. B. Wyman seconded the motion. All members voted aye. Motion passed.

**6) Discussion Landmark for 186 Lake Shore Drive**

J. Wyman spoke with Ian Philpot about the James Crow house and possible landmark status. Mr. Philpot noted that he moved into the house in July of 2020 after the old historic house he grew up in was sold. He and his family wanted to purchase another historic home. The Crow house came up on the market. It is 163 years old and he loves the home. He noted there have been alterations to the house

D. Kenney went through the HPC's authority and the landmark process. He can apply for the landmark status and the HPC would review the request. There is a lot of research already done on this property so that is good. The HPC evaluates the request and presents the findings to the City Council.

She went on to explain how working with the HPC can be a success story. The HPC worked with the Penkava's on window replacement. They received a quote for new windows and they would have been typical vinyl windows that did not have the same character as the original windows. After speaking with the HPC, the homeowner worked with a contractor to repair the windows and they were so happy to keep the charm and look of their home. They were appreciative of the HPC for their suggestions and working with them on the project. This is really what HPC's mission is, to educate the public on the historic nature of the buildings and to preserve that history.

## **5) 2021 Projects**

D. Kenney stated that she spoke with Jason Herbster at the Crystal Lake Park District and he will submit the application for the Main Beach building.

N. Haskins and J. Wyman were speaking about the Veteran's book. It would be worth continuing this project. N. Haskins provided some examples of books she has had published in the past. Depending on the length, the size and the spine/binding the costs could vary between \$700 and \$2,000 for 1,000 books. That was a large first run number, but she was interested in general costs. She will look again for a smaller run and the HPC liked the smaller staple-bound spine book.

B. Wyman asked about compiling all the old trolley tour books into one book. They could clean up some stories for accuracy and they could then sell these books.

D. Kenney thought both were great ideas. She asked both groups to think about what the funds from the books were going to, would it be to the HPC or in the case of the Veteran's book would it be to purchase supplies for cleaning or pay for repairs to the headstones. If there is a cause behind the sale that usually interests people more. She also said the commission should focus on one project through completion before starting multiple projects. She also said that many photographs in the trolley tour books are not owned by the HPC and they were given permission to use them in the trolley tour book. Creating another new book would require permissions to use photographs.

L. Solak agreed and the majority of the commission members wanted to see the cleaning of the cemetery be completed. They also hoped the new commissioner would work with them on the repairs to the headstones.

## **6) Member Inquiries and Reports**

J. Wyman showed a photo of Albert Einstein at the Yerkes Observatory. He would have had to take the train in to Crystal Lake then the spur up to Williams Bay. It was interesting to think that 100 years ago Albert Einstein passed through Crystal Lake.

B. Niequist welcomed her baby boy and said it was 115 years since a baby boy was brought home to the Hale House.

## **7) Adjournment**

There being no further business, D. Kenney a motion to adjourn the meeting. B. Niequist seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.