

MINUTES
Historic Preservation Commission
February 3, 2022
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, Judi Halter, Nancy Haskins, Diana Kenney, Lisa Solak, Bob Wyman. Brittany Niequist was absent. City Planner, Elizabeth Maxwell was present for staff.

3) Public Comment

D. Kenney introduced Natalie Tryon. Ms. Tryon stated she lives on Lake Court in the old Gallagher home. She grew up in Crystal Lake in a Sears home on Caroline Street. She enjoys historic preservation and researching old homes. She is hoping to help out and volunteer and possibly join the Commission. Everyone welcomed her to the meeting. D. Kenney noted it is good to get new members with new ideas.

4) Approval of Minutes of the December 2, 2021 Regular Meeting

D. Kenney made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 2, 2021 regular meeting as presented. B. Wyman seconded the motion. On voice vote, all members voted aye. Motion passed.

5) Election of Officers

D. Kenney asked the current Chair and Vice-Chair if they would like to remain in those positions, both agreed. D. Kenney made a motion to nominate L. Solak as the Chair and B. Wyman as the Vice-Chair. N. Haskins seconded the motion. On voice vote, all members voted aye. Motion passed.

6) Website Handouts

L. Solak asked that this item be tabled as B. Niequist is not present and she had some ideas on making changes to the forms.

7) 2021 Projects Lake Avenue Cemetery and Veteran's Research Book

D. Kenney went through the spreadsheet noting changes have been made with J. Wyman's passing and H. Hale leaving the commission. J. Wyman had already done some articles and proofread a few articles as well. D. Kenney stated she had the best access to resources to do the research and complete the articles. She would make changes to the spreadsheet to update with all assignments and what articles still need to be completed. J. Halter has 3 and she and Nancy are going to work on them together. N. Haskins would go to the Colonel Palmer House to help with research. B. Wyman will do his assigned articles and asked about the Colonel Palmer House hours. D. Kenney noted there will be 54 total articles. She also found the GAR, the Grand Army of the Republic had pictures when they were in this area. There are some of the Crystal Lake veterans in these photos.

D. Kenney said it would be great if the veteran's book was dedicated to J. Wyman. L. Solak asked for a motion on the request. D. Kenney made a motion to dedicate the research book to J. Wyman. B. Wyman seconded the motion. On voice vote all members voted aye. Motion passed.

D. Kenney said there are several folders in the shared Dropbox folder and the articles need to be moved from the first folder and proofread and moved into the second folder. D. Kenney discussed how Algonquin Township wants to do the repairs at the cemetery. They want to start with the front pillars and the gates. D. Kenney was working with Kelly Freeman and spoke with her about appropriate repairs suggesting cobble stone or field stone for the columns. The Commission discussed if the gates were still needed or if an arch could be erected over the columns. D. Kenney said the Historical Society has a fund established for the repair and cleaning costs at the cemetery. J. Wyman started this fund with a \$1,000 donation. Recently Alice Fellers needed some trolley tour books for her collection. In thanking the Commission for providing the books, she made a \$500 donation to the fund. There is approximately \$1,500 in that fund.

8) Budget and Project Prioritization

Staff presented the information on the budget numbers, noting there was about \$8,000 in the balance. In previous years they reserved funds for three grants. The Commission agreed that seemed like a fair amount.

B. Wyman made a motion to reserve \$1,500 for grant assistance to landmarked properties. D. Kenney seconded the motion. On voice vote all members voted aye. Motion passed. B. Wyman stated that he would need to reapply for his Certificate of Appropriateness for the tuck-pointing of his foundation. The previous company is not responding to requests for a time to start the work. He will look for other vendors. He will then request the grant funds for the work.

They also noted that they are likely going to spend \$500 in supplies for cleaning the headstones. They asked staff to create a spreadsheet similar to the Trolley Tour sheet that outlines expenses, revenue, dates, etc.

9) Member Inquiries and Reports

B. Wyman informed the Commission members that St. Thomas Church was 100 years old this year. He has some people researching the history and will send them to the Colonel Palmer House as he knows there is a file of research there. He will approach the church to see if they can plaque it this year.

D. Kenney shared that the Ringling country club area was 100 years old. 100 years ago was when Mrs. Ringling came with her investors and purchased the property and established the country club. It is not a location but a moment in time.

Staff asked about a possible workshop on the landmarking of properties the Commission was interested in holding. L. Solak stated that is tied to the revisions of the handouts. Since that was being tabled, this discussion should as well.

Staff asked about term renewals. B. Wyman and N. Haskins were expiring this year. Both members asked to be renewed.

Staff shared that H. Hale had resigned from the Commission. Everyone acknowledged his work and understood with his new work commitment.

9) Adjournment

There being no further business, D. Kenney made a motion to adjourn the meeting. J. Halter seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.