

**VILLAGE OF HUNTLEY
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, April 23, 2013
MINUTES**

5 CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Donna Britton called to order the *re-scheduled* meeting of the Village of Huntley Historic Preservation Commission for Tuesday, April 23, 2013 at 6:00 pm in the Village Board Room, located at 10987 Main Street, Huntley, Illinois 60142. The room is handicap accessible.

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ROLL CALL - ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners Deb Waters, Karen Langhenry, Vice-Chair Lonni Oldham and Chairperson Donna Britton

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MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Jake Marino

ALSO PRESENT: Director of Development Services Charles Nordman and Planner James Williams

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Public Comment There were no public comments.

4. Approval of Minutes

A MOTION was made to approve the March 19, 2013 Meeting Minutes with the following changes:

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Page 2, Line 27, add "interest in adaptive reuse and"

MOVED: Commissioner Langhenry

SECONDED: Commissioner Deb Waters

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AYES: Commissioners Karen Langhenry, Deb Waters, Vice Chair Lonni Oldham and Chairperson Donna Britton

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0

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5. Old Business

A. Discussion – Pride in Preservation Nominee Properties

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Planner Williams reviewed the list of the seven (7) 2013 Pride in Preservation (PiP) nominee properties that he had sent letters. This list included the Village-owned Old Village Hall property at 11704 Coral Street. Director Nordman stated the Village of Huntley would graciously accept the 2013 Pride in Preservation award for that property.

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Director Nordman stated that Development Services Department Staff had yet to hear back from any of the other 2013 Pride in Preservation nominated property owners.

Discussion continued regarding the scheduling of the Pride in Preservation program in May including the award presentation, property descriptions and the Village Board meeting.

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Director Nordman pointed out that the scheduling of the events at the Village Board remained uncertain in light of the swearing-in of newly-elected Village Board members was also uncertain.

Historic Commissioners and Staff resolved to continue the process of reaching out to the PiP nominated property owners and Chairperson Britton requested Planner Williams send her a copy of the Town Square Self-Guided Tour map so that she could begin crafting narratives of the history of the nominated properties.

- 5 Planner Williams stated he would create an appropriate “Pride in Preservation” sign to be provide to the nominated property owners for display in the respective properties’/business’ windows.

B. Discussion – May Look at Local History Firefighters Theme Event(s)

- 10 Commissioner Langhenry described her contact with the Huntley Fire Protection District, including the plan to speak with firefighter Ed Gearen who may have some historic information for a historic program at the year’s first Farmers Market on Saturday, May 25, 2013.

- 15 Vice-Chair Oldham provided some of the preliminary history about Huntley’s firefighting history including some of the old fire houses and use of existing buildings, such as the Old Village Hall, for firefighting vehicles and equipment.

- 20 Commissioner Langhenry stated she will contact the Huntley Area Chamber of Commerce regarding use of the front meeting room until about 1:00 p.m. or so during the Farmers Market on Saturday, May 25, 2013.

- Chairperson Britton raised the question of arranging a booth for the Historic Commission to occupy and Director Nordman suggested that Staff will contact Huntley Management Assistant Barb Read about reserving a booth at the May 25th Market.

- 25 It was discussed that as in previous years, the Farmers Market publicity includes not only market vendors, but, also advertised that groups such as the Historic Preservation Commissions will also be at the event.

C. Discussion - Prospective Landmark Properties, Additions to existing Historic District and/or New Historic Districts

- 30 Vice-Chair Oldham stated she is still in negotiations with the Mullaness regarding the landmarking of the 11608 Second Street residence and believe it may have to wait until the summer break.

- 35 Chairperson Britton stated she had discussed the topic of historic designation with the Dairy Mart owner and he was interested in learning more about advantages and disadvantages to the landmark designation applied to properties including specifically grants and tax benefits. Chairperson Britton also mentioned the Dairy Mart owner was concerned about whether the landmark designation would encumber any future plans for renovations or improvements to the property.

- 40 Director Nordman pointed out that changes to commercial property may be subject Plan Commission/Village Board site plan review regardless of whether the property is landmarked or not.

- 45 Chairperson Britton and Vice-Chair Oldham reviewed the topics discussed at a recent meeting the two of them had with Village President Sass and Village Manager Johnson on Thursday, April 18, 2013 in the Conference Room C107. Chairperson Britton stated that a similar meeting with these individuals is scheduled for May.

- 50 Chairperson Britton suggested the Historic Commissioners review the information Mr. Tom Conley had dropped off at the beginning of this evening’s meeting including a copy of the letter to the Village Board he had prepared regarding the Sawyer-Kelley Mill building and downtown parking survey data he had collected between September and November 2012.

Commissioner Waters reviewed the “Proposed Changes to Building Ordinance” she prepared offering a three (step process for handling proposed demolition projects in Huntley.

5 Director Nordman pointed out that demolition projects are frequently code enforcement driven whereby direction is provided by the municipality to fix a structure and the property does not have the means to address the issue and is forced to consider demolition of the structure.

Discussion ensued as to how best integrate the proposed demolition process drafted by Commissioner Waters.

10 Director Nordman encouraged the drafting of guidelines and procedures that are subjective in order to clearly address an issue that is often both time and safety sensitive and also suggested perhaps discussing the issue with Village Manager Johnson.

15 Vice-Chair Oldham suggested using a checklist for evaluating and inventorying sites slated for demolition and Commissioner Waters suggested using the check list form for evaluating sites that may be considered endangered as a proactive exercise toward building an inventory of various properties.

6. New Business

20 A. Discussion – Other Future Projects and Initiatives

25 Vice-Chair Oldham mentioned an Illinois State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) program for sesquicentennial churches she had recently learned about and that she was interested in contacting someone with the First Congregational Church to see if they would be interested in participating in the program.

7. Adjournment

30 At 7:28 p.m., A MOTION was made by Vice-Chair Oldham to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Commissioner Waters. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

James Williams

Planner

Village of Huntley