

**VILLAGE OF HUNTLEY  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING  
Tuesday, June 18, 2013  
MINUTES**

5 CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Donna Britton called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of the Village of Huntley Historic Preservation Commission for Tuesday, June 18, 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, Diana Carpenter and Jake Marino,  
Vice-Chair Lonni Oldham and Chairperson Donna Britton

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MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Karen Langhenry

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

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**A. A MOTION was made to approve the April 23, 2013 Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes with the following changes:**

Page 1, Line 41, reword passage to indicate the Old Village Hall property was the only *village-owned* property nominated for a 2013 Pride in Preservation award

Page 2, Line 36, add "including specifically grants and tax benefits."

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Page 2, Line 43, remove "and Village Clerk McMahan"

Page 3, Line 4, replace "drive" with "driven"

**MOVED: Vice-Chair Oldham**

**SECONDED: Commissioner Waters**

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**AYES: Commissioner Waters, Vice-Chair Lonni Oldham and Chairperson Britton**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSTAIN: Commissioners Marino and Carpenter**

**MOTION CARRIED 3:0:2**

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**B. Approval of the May 21, 2013 Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes**

Approval of the Minutes was "tabled" until the next meeting.

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5. Old Business

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

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In regard to the Mullane House, 11608 Second Street, landmark application, Vice-Chair Oldham stated the petitioners wanted to insure everything was in impeccable order before submitting the application.

In regard to other issues confronting Second Street historic designations, Vice-Chair Oldham pointed out that the information compiled by Tom Conley regarding the various properties along the subject street may need to be converted into a format more easily discernible and ready to present to those property owners who may be interested in a historic designation for their property.

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Chairperson Britton suggested converting the data into the format utilized by McHenry County for presentation of their historic properties.

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Commissioner Carpenter offered to contact Oak Park historic preservation personnel to determine if they could provide the Huntley Development Services Department staff with the format for how their archival historic property data is compiled, stored and presented.

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Additionally, Commissioner Carpenter noted that Oak Park had a program which offered property owners contemplating a rehabilitation project an opportunity to “upgrade” the subject rehabilitation to a more elaborate project. Programs such as this one offered by Oak Park which accommodated more elaborate restoration projects were cited by Commissioner Carpenter as examples of the advantages of historic preservation to be referenced when discussing the issues with property owners who may be interested in landmark or historic district designation for their home.

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Commissioner Waters suggested focusing on a few specific properties along Second Street and Commissioner Marino concurred suggesting a letter be sent to a couple property owners to encourage historic designation of their respective properties.

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#### *Farmer’s Market May 25, 2013 event*

Chairperson Britton stated the Town Square and Second Street walking tour maps were well received by the public stopping by the Historic Preservation Commission booth.

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#### *SHPO program for sesquicentennial churches*

Vice-Chair Oldham provided an update regarding the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) program for sesquicentennial churches that was considering nominating the First Congregational Church. Vice-Chair Oldham stated the nominated properties would be announced next month (July 2013).

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#### *Pride in Preservation Signs*

Chairperson Britton suggested that it may be a time to reevaluate the Pride in Preservation program after five years especially considering the last batch of Pride in Preservation signs were never gathered and or returned by the 2012 property owner award recipients.

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Director Nordman suggested a quote for replacements signs could be requested from the sign company that produced the original collection of signs.

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Commissioner Marino suggested that there remained enough properties that have not been previously nominated that are worthy of recognition and offered to try and retrieve some of the distributed Pride in Preservation signs.

### B. Demolition Process Information

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Commissioner Waters stated she had transmitted the draft demolition information, including the demolition check list, to Village Manager Johnson on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

5 Chairperson Britton stated that the demolition information compiled by Commissioner Waters was well received by both Village Manager Johnson and Village President Sass when they met late last week, but, warned that although the proposed demolition materials may delay demolition it may not prohibit demolition all together. Additionally, Village Manager Johnson and Village President Sass were concerned with the legality of the proposed demolition process including that it not interfere with the sale of the property.

10 Discussion regarding the issue of demolition continued and Commissioner Waters pointed out that it is her hope to arrive at a process that separates demolition for safety reasons versus demolition to “make room” for an unspecified future development.

15 Chairperson Britton offered that while the first two meetings with Village Manager Johnson and Village President Sass were attended by both her and Vice-Chair Oldham and, the Open Meetings Act requires that no more than two advisory board members meet, it does not specify that those two advisory board members be the same each and every time.

15 Director Nordman stated he would contact the Village Manager’s office regarding suggested direction on the building demolition matter.

20 *Town Square Sign Addition*

Chairperson Britton inquired about the addition to the *James C. Dhamer Town Square* sign.

25 Director Nordman stated that the sign addition, refurbished Town Square sign and additional signs required by the Village’s Public Works Department will all be produced at the same time hopefully saving time and funding.

6. New Business

A. Discussion – Other Future Projects and Initiatives

30 *Huntley Downtown Streetscape*

35 Chairperson Britton mentioned that a meeting is to be scheduled between the Historic Preservation Commission representatives and the consulting firm Houseal/Lavigne who are working with the Village of Huntley on producing a streetscape plan for the downtown area.

Director Nordman stated he would be scheduling the meeting with Houseal/Lavigne in the next few weeks and suggested topics to be discussed could include elements such as clocks, fountains, planters, benches and streetscape elements from Huntley’s past that could perhaps be recreated in some form today as part of a streetscape plan.

40 Commissioner Waters suggested adding plaques showing the “built-dates” for downtown structures and public art including murals depicting historic elements from Huntley’s past.

45 Commissioner Marino recalled that there was a drinking fountain in the town square at some point and believed he had seen photographs showing its location.

Director Nordman offered to provide copies of the Downtown Revitalization Plan to the Historic Commissioners which included a map showing the downtown study area.

50 Chairperson Britton asked if any of the Historic Preservation Commissioners could offer an opinion about the architectural feature at the roof of the former hotel property at 11879 Main Street and Commissioner Marino stated he believed he has a couple of photographs that could confirm the original date of the architectural feature.

Director Nordman stated that the Village Board meeting this Thursday, June 20, 2013 included the discussion item for a policy direction regarding preparation of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the rehabilitation and re-use of the Sawyer-Kelley Mill building at 11801 E. Main St.

5 7. Adjournment

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

10 Respectfully submitted,

*James Williams*

Planner

Village of Huntley