

**Kankakee County Historic Preservation Commission Meeting**  
**Summary of Minutes**  
**January 5, 2015**

**Members Present:**

Mardene Hinton (chair), John Adams, Jane Johnson, Daron Kinzinger , Jim Paul, Neely Provost-Regas, and Ron Shank.

**Also Present:**

Michelle Sadler.

**Members Absent:**

Terry Johnston and Pat Wagner.

**Quorum Present.**

Ms. Hinton called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm in the second floor conference room of the Kankakee County Building.

**Public Comments:**

None.

**Minutes:**

A motion was made by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Shank to approve the December 1, 2014 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

**Staff Report:**

Ms. Sadler stated that she has not heard from the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency regarding the commission's 2015 CLG Grant application. She expects to learn the status of this grant application by mid-January.

Regarding the Intergovernmental Agreement Status/State's Attorney agenda item, Ms. Sadler said that the agreement was in the hands of Mike Van Mill and the State's Attorney. She expects an update tomorrow.

**Historic Landmark:**

Ms. Sadler gave an update on the Landmark Status of the Reddick Gymnasium. She said that the Reddick Fire Department is close to selling the gymnasium to the Reddick Alumni Association. The attorney for the fire department sent an e-mail to Ms. Sadler confirming that the sale was moving toward purchase. The commission wondered how the possible new ownership may affect the Nomination for Historic Landmark related to the gymnasium—which has already been approved by the commission.

**Committee Reports:**

Under the Ordinance Review agenda item, Ms. Johnson (assisted by Ms. Hinton) led a discussion on Article III. The changes/corrections were agreed to by the commission. Article III

will be rewritten for the commission to review at the next meeting. The two previous articles will also be rewritten and presented to the commission at a future meeting. Dr. Paul and Ms. Hinton agreed to present changes/corrections to Article IV at the March meeting.

There were no reports from the Historic Tourism Plan Committee and the Architectural Review Committee.

Dr. Paul presented a few ideas during his report of the Education Committee. Before the meeting, he presented Ms. Sadler with 37 digital files (in the digital folder: Bourbonnais/Rockville Townships Historic Sites) which she downloaded onto the county computer. She and Delbert Skimmerhorn will put these individual files onto the county website's map of historic sites. Each file includes a photograph and brief explanation of the historic site's significance. Dr. Paul asked for the commission's support in printing 6 copies of the files which will be bound and delivered to: the Kankakee County Convention and Tourism Bureau, Dr. John Bowling (ONU owns several of the sites), Bourbonnais Building Inspector Vicki Senesac, the Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society, Ken Idle (consultant for the CLG Grant), and the commission. The commissioners agreed. Dr. Paul also suggested that in the near future, a seminar or workshop could be offered to the public which would publicize the significance of these 37 historic sites in Bourbonnais and Rockville Townships. There was no action taken on this proposal. Dr. Paul did not include a photograph or explanation of the archeological Windrose Site. The commission agreed that publicizing the location of such sites on the county website may be detrimental.

**Old Business:**

Ms. Johnson mentioned that she is starting a petition drive in Momence to save a 1950s school from being demolished and replaced by a Casey's Gas Station.

**New Business:**

Dr. Paul explained the concern of Bonnie Bergeron about the murals on the ceiling of the courthouse. She wrote in an e-mail to him "They are so black that they can hardly be seen anymore." Ms. Hinton suggested pursuing a Jeffris Family Foundation grant. However, a feasibility study must be undertaken first. This would be costly. Ms. Bergeron agreed to serve on a committee that would explore this possibility.

The next meeting will be on February 2, 2015 at 4:00 pm.

**Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Shank and seconded by Mr. Kinzinger. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dr. Jim Paul, Secretary

Approved 3/2/15