

Kankakee County Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

Summary of Minutes

June 1, 2015

Members Present:

Mardene Hinton (chair), John Adams, Jane Johnson, Terry Johnston, Daron Kinzinger , and Jim Paul,.

Also Present:

Michelle Sadler.

Member Absent:

Neely Provost-Regas, Ron Shank, 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:

Mr. Johnston moved that the May 4, 2015 minutes be approved. Mr. Kinzinger seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Staff Report:

Regarding the CLG Grant Status agenda item, Ms. Sadler stated that the grant was passed by the PZA. The county board will have the opportunity to approve it at the June 9 meeting. If approved by the county board, consultant Mr. Kenneth Itle will be notified.

Regarding the Community Foundation Grant Status, the commission will receive \$2000 for anything other than “in kind” and another \$3000 private donation for printing, room rental, snacks, and other miscellaneous items.

Regarding the Intergovernmental Agreement Status – City of Kankakee issue, Ms. Hinton has sent an e-mail follow up to Cliff Cross and the mayor, but has received no response from either.

Historic Landmark:

Ms. Sadler said that there is no new update on the Landmark Status of the Reddick Gymnasium.

Committee Reports:

Under the Ordinance Review agenda item, the commission discussed the “economic hardship” item under Article IV. Ms. Hinton will send all commissioners website information regarding economic hardship so that a decision on this issue can be made at the next meeting. Discussion on Article V was tabled until the next meeting.

Regarding the Phil Angelo’s Historic Tourism Plan agenda item, there has not been another meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee since the first one on March 4.

Regarding the Architectural Review Committee report, Ms. Hinton stated that she has given to Ms. Johnson, Mr. Johnston, and Mr. Shank “tasks” for the Architectural Review Committee.

During his report for the Education Committee, Dr. Paul stated that he has given a copy of the nearly 40 page *Historic Homes, Buildings, Sites, and Exhibits of Bourbonnais and Rockville Townships* to the Bourbonnais Grove Historical Society, and will give a copy to Dr. John Bowling, President of Olivet Nazarene University, on June 4 . Ms. Hinton suggested that at that meeting, Dr. Paul ask Dr. Bowling if he would allow landmarking any of the historical properties owned by the university. In other Education Committee business, Mr. Adams joined the committee and Dr. Paul stepped down as committee chair.

Old Business:

As an update on the Richard Keen House/Blanderburg House, Ms. Hinton stated that the house has been demolished. The commission had decided last month that the house was not historically significant.

New Business:

Under the Planning for CLG agenda item, the commission agreed to wait for Mr. Itle's recommendations before soliciting community participation for writing history of the county and serving on advisory panels for the grant. Under this same agenda item, the commission's consensus for two goals to be accomplished were 1) better exposure to the public—especially the commission's website; and 2) pursuing intergovernmental agreements with all county villages and towns. The commission agreed that the latter would best be initiated through the county's many historical societies.

Under Announcements, Dr. Paul mentioned the Wednesday June 17 meeting from 1-4 pm in the Iroquois Room at Kankakee Community College in which the Bradley Bourbonnais Rotary Club, local historical societies, Illinois and Michigan Canal personnel, and Ste. Genevieve, MO, French Colonial historical personnel will pursue the concept of creating and publicizing an "Historical Corridor" from the Kankakee River Valley to the I & M Canal, to the Illinois River Valley, to the Mississippi River Valley, to the French Colonial towns of Old Cahokia and Ste. Genevieve. Ms. Johnson announced the beginning of a relationship between the Momence one room school house and Main Street Momence, and the planning for an historical "Dixie Highway" sign. Ms. Hinton announced the June 24-26 Carbondale, IL conference on historic preservation.

Next Meeting will be on July 13, 2015 at 4:00 pm.

Adjournment:

Mr. Johnson made a motion to adjourn at 5:05 pm. Mr. Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Jim Paul, Secretary