

Kankakee County Historic Preservation Commission Meeting
Summary of Minutes
April 6, 2009

Members Present:

Mardene Hinton	John Adams	Elisabeth Dunbar
Andrew Purcell	Daron Kinzinger	Patricia Wagner

Members Absent:

Dr. Jim Paul	Ashley Lucas	Terry Johnston
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Others Present:

Jeff Jarvis

Quorum Present.

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Ms. Dunbar.

No public comment.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Ms. Hinton and seconded by Mr. Adams to approve the minutes from the January 5, 2009 meeting. Motion carried.

Work Program:

A. CLG Status:

- No word on the CLG status to date, but should be moving forward.

B. County Survey:

- No update at this time, it's an ongoing project by the Commission Members. Information still coming in from the Members.

C. Intergovernmental Agreement:

- Mr. Jarvis gave an update on the mausoleum in Manteno previously owned by the Prairie family. The Prairie family donated the mausoleum to the St. Joseph Church. We would need to talk to them about the benefits to having landmark status. If the property has been annexed into the Village of Manteno, this would be a perfect test case for an intergovernmental agreement. Once recognized with local status, it would have a better potential to be recognized at the State level. The landmark status would help maintain and protect the mausoleum.
- There was talk about if a cemetery can be nominated for landmark status. Checking on the ordinance and information on cemeteries.
- We can start nominating properties to work through the process and get ourselves familiar with the steps, etc.

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- Maybe we need to put together a brochure to help individuals understand the process and the benefits to being a Historic Landmark. Ms. Hinton to work on the brochure.

Bradley House Initiative (updated by Ms. Dunbar & Ms. Hinton):

- Well attended meeting in March, getting more people volunteering to help.
- Working on having a 2-day event in July. Ms. Hinton has talked to an architect that wrote books on Frank Lloyd Wright homes, that she had worked with some time ago. Ms. Hinton asked if he would speak at the event in July, he said yes. Dinner reception on a Friday and tours of the house on Saturday morning and speak in the afternoon at KCC. Also have permission to sell his books.

Courthouse Centennial Celebration:

- Letters have been sent out to the State's Attorney, Sheriff, and Chief Judge Elliott about the celebration and asking for their permission, help and cooperation in planning the event. Letters will also be going out to Chris Bohlen, Mike Bossert, and Roger Elliott asking the same.
- Mr. Purcell and Ms. Hinton met with State's Attorney Jamie Boyd at the Court House for a tour and planning session.
- Some of the ideas for the event.
 - Some type of a gala event on Saturday night with orchestra, possibly dancing, appetizers, due to space wouldn't be able to have a sit down meal. Saturday night would be by invitation only for our Commission, County Board Members, current and former officials, etc. Silent auction with items such as a print of the Court House, historical books of the County and a number of other items. Those attending would receive a commemorative gift.
 - Sunday would be a community event with a ceremony to commemorate the 100th anniversary, choirs, bands, walking tours of the grounds to point out the different historical items/sites, etc. A poster contest will be arranged with high school art teachers and their students. Winners would receive savings bonds.
 - Judge Erickson has taken a photo of the Court House that he will let us use. One may be framed for the Saturday silent auction and others could be sold as prints on Sunday.
- Most of the issues will be worked out once a budget has been set and we have approval to move forward with the October 3rd and 4th dates.
- Where will the money go if there is a profit from the event? Can the money go into a Historic Preservation Fund?

Grant Park House:

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- Ann Hacker from the Illinois Historic Commission called Ms. Dunbar about the local Historic Preservation Commission looking at an 1853 farm home in Grant Park. The owner has applied for a demo permit, using it as a training site for a burn by the fire department. Is the property historically or architecturally significant for the national Registry? Ms. Dunbar looked at the site and determined it was not livable and would take a lot of money to bring into living conditions. Also with the many additions she didn't feel it would qualify for Historic landmark status. However, Ms. Hacker denied the burn permit and Ms. Dunbar is looking into why.

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- None

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be May 4, 2009 at 3:30 p.m.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m. by a motion from Mr. Kinzinger and a second by Mr. Purcell.

Prepared by:

Michelle Sadler, Office Manager
Kankakee County Planning Dept.

Approved 8/3/09

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