

MINUTES
VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

May 13, 2014

Memorial Hall – Memorial Building, 19 East Chicago Avenue, Hinsdale
5:00 P.M.

Chairman Peterson called the meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission to order at 5:04 p.m. on May 13, 2014 in Memorial Hall in the Memorial Building, 19 East Chicago Avenue, Hinsdale IL.

Present: Chairman Peterson, Commissioner Bohnen, Commissioner Harloe-Mowery and Commissioner Gonzalez

Absent: Commissioner Hutter

Also Present: Village Planner, Sean Gascoigne

Minutes

Chairman Peterson introduced the minutes from April 8, 2014. Commissioner Bohnen made a motion to approve the April 8, 2014 minutes. Commissioner Harloe seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion

Chairman Peterson opened discussion regarding the proposed text amendment to the Preservation Ordinance and presented the proposed changes.

The Commission agreed that the language could be tweaked as a result of the recent withdrawal request at 319 N. Washington and general discussion ensued regarding the standards and requirements for withdrawal. The Commission continued discussions regarding proposed amendments and how the standards could be amended.

Commissioner Bohnen summarized his thoughts regarding the withdrawal request and how he felt the applicant had not met those standards. He then indicated that he would have been more comfortable crafting language for financial hardship and may have been more apt to approve a request based on that type of standard.

General discussion ensued regarding the differences between a locally landmarked property and one landmarked on the National Register.

General discussion ensued and Commissioner Harloe summarized some of her thoughts on how to improve landmarking efforts and increase involvement, suggesting the Commission consider requesting an increase in their annual budget, as well as the use of graduate students in some of the efforts the Commission was trying put forth. The Commission then discussed the possibility of fundraising to raise funds for the Commission's efforts.

Chairman Peterson appreciated the comments and suggested the Commission look at some of these items in the future, but for now look at how to improve the language in the existing code regarding withdrawals. He then suggested the removal of the term “area” from standard “b” in the withdrawal standards, and adding a letter “e” to establish a standard for financial hardship.

General discussion ensued and the Commission generally agreed that this would be an appropriate amendment to the withdrawal standards.

Chairman Peterson introduced the discussion on fences in the front yard.

Commissioner Bohnen provided some history regarding wrought iron fences in the front yard and stated that previous Committees had undertaken discussions as to their appropriateness in the front yard and for one reason or another, no resolution was ever reached. General discussion ensued regarding wrought iron fences in the front yard and the Commission considered alternate Committees or Commissions that should consider design and hear variations for fence requests in the front yard.

Chairman Peterson requested that Commissioners Bohnen and Gonzalez research the past discussions that took place regarding this topic and that the Commission could take up this conversation at a future meeting once they had completed the research. He then indicated that at this time, the Commission would like to withdraw the request for the member increase on the Commission and that they would reconsider it, if and when the interest arose.

Adjournment

Commissioner Harloe moved to adjourn. Commissioner Gonzalez seconded and the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m. on May 13, 2014.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sean Gascoigne
Village Planner