



PUBLIC NOTICE

A meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission set for July 28, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the 1st Floor Community Room at the River Forest Village Hall, 400 Park Avenue.

The agenda is as follows:

- I. Call to Order
- II. Public Testimony
- III. Approval of Meeting Minutes – June 23, 2016
- IV. Consideration of Historic Property Modifications and Applications for Certificates of Appropriateness
- V. Awarding of the 2016 Historic Preservation Award(s)
 - a. 138 Keystone Avenue – Architectural Details
- VI. Review of Ongoing Commissioner Assignments
- VII. Other Business
- VIII. Adjournment

**VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

June 23, 2016

A meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission set for June 23, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the 2nd Floor Conference Room at the River Forest Village Hall, 400 Park Avenue.

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. Upon roll call, the following persons were:

Present: Chairman Zurowski, Commissioners Popowits, Graham-White, Raino-Ogden, Prestes, and Franek

Absent: None.

Also Present: Administrative Intern John Hoffman

II. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Jan Saeger, 435 William – Ms. Saeger expressed that she will miss Laurel McMahon as part of the Historic Preservation Commission. She also thanked and commended Commissioner Raino-Ogden for opening his home to guests as part of the Wright Plus Home Walk.

Ms. Saeger went on to say that she heard the Commission was considering renaming the Historic Preservation Awards. She stated that she has researched what other areas of the state and country call their own awards and briefly presented this information to the commission.

Chairman Zurowski stated that the Historic Preservation Committee's intent at the last meeting was to name the award after Jeanette Fields.

Ms. Saeger expressed that she has visited the online historical database and found that it was working. However, when she visited the page for the property located at 7314 Oak, she was not able to easily locate information regarding the homes landmark status. She feels that this issue should be addressed and remedied to make the information more easily found.

The Commission asked that she submit her concerns to Chairman Zurowski via email.

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Zurowski stated that he noticed a superficial outline of the commissioner assignments which, in part, led him to request that staff establish a DropBox folder for the Historic Preservation Commission.

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Franek and SECONDED by Commissioner Popowits to approve the minutes of the May 26, 2016 Historic Preservation Commission meeting.

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AYES: Commissioners Popowits, Graham-White, Franek, Prestes and Raino-Ogden.
NAYS: None.

Motion Passes.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF HISTORIC PROPERTY MODIFICATIONS AND APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS

No applications were received for this meeting period.

V. CONSIDERATION OF RENAMING THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARD

Commissioner Franek noted that the Commission currently has multiple awards. He suggested that the Commission could choose to name the Merit Award after Jeanette Fields or, the Commission could instead name the entire awards as a collective the Jeanette Fields Historic Preservation Awards.

The Commission agreed that they liked naming the highest award, the Merit Award, after Jeanette Fields.

Chairman Zurowski stated that he had considered naming an award after former Historic Preservation Commissioner Laurel McMahon.

The Commission decided that based on the work she completed on her own home that it would name the Restoration Award after Laurel McMahon.

A MOTION was made to rename the Restoration Award the Laurel McMahon Restoration Award by Commissioner Raino-Ogden and SECONDED by Commissioner Graham-White.

AYES: Commissioners Popowits, Graham-White, Franek, Prestes and Raino-Ogden.
NAYS: None.

Motion Passes.

A MOTION was made to rename the Merit Award the Jeanette Fields Award of Merit by Commissioner Franek and SECONDED by Commissioner Raino-Ogden.

AYES: Commissioners Popowits, Graham-White, Franek, Prestes and Raino-Ogden.
NAYS: None.

Motion Passes.

VI. CONSIDERATION OF NOMINATIONS FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARD

The Commission received two nominations for the Historic Preservation Award for the properties located at 914 Lathrop and 138 Keystone.

Commissioner Franek noted that 914 Lathrop has been brought before the Commission before and it was recommended that they return for the Award of Merit. The Commission commended the work that was completed on the property. The applicant for this property nominated it for the Restoration Award. The commission discussed the work that was done on the property and the information provided in the application. The Commission agreed that the project was a restoration that made a good effort to be historically sensitive in a way that allowed the home to keep its historic value.

Chairman Zurowski stated that the property at 138 Keystone is across the street from him and that Commissioner Raino-Ogden had offered his opinions on the work. Chairman Zurowski noted that he has heard criticism of the choice of paint color, which is not historically accurate. However, he does not feel this significantly detracts from the project. Commissioner Raino-Ogden agreed.

Commissioner Franek suggested that perhaps the work done at 138 Keystone should be considered for the Architectural Details Award. The Commission agreed that the description of this award best fit the work done on this property.

A MOTION was made to award the property located at 138 Keystone the Architectural Details Award by Commissioner Franek and SECONDED by Commissioner Raino-Ogden.

AYES: Commissioners Popowits, Graham-White, Franek, Prestes and Raino-Ogden.
NAYS: None.

Motion Passes.

The Commission then returned the discussion to the 914 Lathrop property. They commented on the definition of the different awards and how the work at 914 Lathrop may be recognized.

A MOTION was made to award the property located at 914 Lathrop the Renovation Award by Commissioner Franek and SECONDED by Commissioner Graham-White.

AYES: Commissioners Popowits, Graham-White, Franek, and Raino-Ogden.
NAYS: Commissioner Prestes.

Motion Passes.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Zurowski stated that he would like to run through his assignments for the Commission.

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Commissioner Franek stated that he was tasked with researching how the Historic Preservation Commission could better communicate with realtors in the area. He noted that he found a website called savewright.org which is a national website for Frank Lloyd Wright properties that are for sale or being restored. He applauded whoever was responsible for this work. Commissioner Franek stated that two Wright homes in River Forest are listed on this website.

Commissioner Popowits stated that he has two educational pieces scheduled and hopes to schedule a third. He stated that after three presentations, he plans to reevaluate the effectiveness of the education. Chairman Zurowski asked for Commissioner Popowits to share his presentation with the Commission.

Commissioner Raino-Ogden presented some old information and documentation that he had from the Historic Preservation Commission. He added that he had found an old block party survey and he suggested that updating this could create useful and interesting information on historic properties.

Commissioner Raino-Ogden presented a rendering for a monument commemorating the anniversary of the 700 Block of William. The Commission noted that the 700 Block of William was going to be recognized at the next Village Board Meeting with a historic street sign.

Chairman Zurowski stated that last June he wrote a paragraph for the Village E-News about the new ordinance and referenced the flow diagrams. He announced that for the next month, he has asked Commissioner Franek to write a piece thanking Laurel McMahon for her service to the Village.

Chairman Zurowski researched the Maywood brochure about historical properties. He explained that the Maywood Chairman noted that they were able to get the brochure design work done for free and that Maywood spent a couple thousand dollars on printing. He stated that he felt that a brochure would be appropriate for the Village to pursue.

Commissioner Graham-White discussed historical properties that are at risk. She stated that the Village has eleven historically significant properties that are on the market, two of which are new this month. Since last month, one has sold, two are pending, and one is off the market. She noted that something was pending on the Winslow house and seems to have fallen through. She further stated that one home that was advertised as a tear down has since changed and is no longer being advertised this way.

Chairman Zurowski invited the commissioners to send information to be added to the DropBox folder in order to keep records organized for access by commissioners.

Chairman Zurowski discussed the potential concerns about the potential proposed TIF districts on Madison Street and on North Avenue. He stated that the only Historically Significant Property was the Lutheran Family Service building on Madison Street.

Commissioner Franek noted that it may be easiest for the Village to provide a list of any potential properties that may be affected in order to cross reference those properties with the Historically Significant Properties list. Chairman Zurowski stated that he thought it would be helpful to have a

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member of the Historic Preservation Commission follow the issue and report back as to potential threats to historical properties. The details of the proposed TIF district were discussed.

Commissioner Prestes stated that he took some time to walk through the Historic Preservation Commission's section of the Village website and reviewed the available content. From this research, he gathered some thoughts on potential reorganization and plans for ongoing maintenance. He expressed that reorganization of the Historic Preservation Commission's page could be feasible to complete and would be helpful to improve access to information.

Commissioner Franek briefly noted that he is researching what steps need to be completed in order for the Historic Preservation Commission to obtain status as a Certified Local Government.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Franek and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Raino-Ogden to adjourn the June 23, 2016 meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission at 8:16 p.m.

AYES: Commissioners Popowits, Graham-White, Raino-Ogden, Prestes, and Franek.

NAYS: None.

Motion Passes.

Respectfully submitted:

Jonathan Pape
Management Intern

Approved:

Tom Zurowski, Chair Pro Tem
Historic Preservation Commission

Date