VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

September 26th, 2024

A meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission was held on September 26th, 2024, in the 1st Floor Community Room of the River Forest Village Hall, 400 Park Avenue.

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m. Upon roll call, the following persons were:

Present:

Chairman Franek, Commissioners Saeger, Graham-White, Krusinski, Muhr

Absent:

Commissioners Raino-Ogden and Forehand

Also Present: Management Analyst/Deputy Clerk Luke Masella

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Graham-White and SECONDED by Commissioner Saeger to allow Commissioners Raino-Ogden and Muhr to attend the meeting virtually.

AYES:

Chairmen Franek, Commissioners Saeger, Graham-White, Krusinski.

NAYS:

None.

Motion Passes.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES - August 22nd, 2024

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Saeger and SECONDED by Commissioner Krusinski to approve the meeting minutes for the August 22nd, 2024, meeting.

AYES:

Chairmen Franck, Commissioners Saeger, Graham-White, Krusinski, Muhr

NAYS:

None.

Motion Passes.

IV. PRESENTATION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS

I. 2023

I. 210 Gale Avenue – Garage – Streetscape Compatibility Award

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Chairman Franek and Commissioner Saeger noted that the applicants did a great job matching the garage to the home.

II. 727 Keystone Avenue – Rear Addition – Renovation Award

Chairman Franek noted that the new addition blends seamlessly into the existing structure.

III. 823 Keystone Avenue – Siding, Roof, Front Porch, and Landscaping –Laurel McMahon Restoration Award

Chairmen Franck gave background information on the award and congratulated the applicants at the meeting for their hard work. He noted that improving an older home like 823 Keystone is not easy work.

The applicant, Keith Strom, suggested the Village announce these awards so as to help bring more attention to the work that the Commission does.

Chairmen Franck and Deputy Clerk Masella provided examples of how the Village advertises these awards.

Mr. Strom suggested the local newspapers be informed as well.

Lisa Rodriguez gave additional background information on the application and the work done on the home.

The Commission and the applicants discussed the significance of porches on older homes.

II. 2024

 I. 1411 Keystone Avenue – Rear Addition and Exterior Renovations – Renovation Award

Chairmen Franek gave background on the award and commented on the quality of work completed by the applicant.

V. DISCUSSION REGARDING PROMOTION OF RIVER FOREST ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORY

Commissioner Saeger suggested the Village publicize the Historic Preservation videos on the Village's YouTube Channel.

VI. DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL WAYS TO PROTECT SIGNFICANT PROPERTIES

Commissioner Saeger suggested that the Village should continue to advertise the awards.

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Deputy Clerk Masella suggested that the application be altered to remind residents that the Commission only reviews the exterior of properties.

Chairmen Franek and Commissioner Graham-White noted that the application could still welcome information on the interiors.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Franek noted that the Winslow House is on the market for sale. He then gave background on the significance of the home.

Commissioner Muhr noted that a contingent offer has already been placed on the home.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Graham-White and SECONDED by Commissioner Krusinski to adjourn the September 26th, 2024, meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission.

AYES: Chairman Franck, Commissioners Saeger, Graham-White, Krusinski, Muhr

NAYS: None.

Motion Passes and the meeting ended at 7:32 PM.

Luke Masella

Deputy Clerk/Management Analyst

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Approved:

David Franck, Chairman

Historic Preservation Commission