MINUTES
Historic Preservation Commission
December 2, 2004
Raue House, 25 W. Crystal Lake Avenue

I. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on December 2, 2004, at the Raue House, 25 W. Crystal Lake Avenue.

II. Roll Call/Attendance

Present were the following Commission members: Brice Alt, Chair, Diana Kenney, Tom Nemcek, Sandy Price, Sue Riegler, and Bob Wyman. Also present was Jeanette Mazur, the homeowners at 87 Elmhurst, and Mr. and Mrs. Parrish, Mary Oberhart, and Eric Helm, Assistant to the City Manager.

III. Housewalk Tour Meeting

Member Kenney explained, to the homeowners present, how the housewalk tour is organized and operated. Other commission members also gave input.

A previous house walk tour participant talked about her housewalk tour experience as a tour participant. She stated that her house was displayed during the 1999 Tour.

The homeowners present had questions regarding the tour and general discussion occurred.

IV. Public Presentation

There was no one in the public who wished to make a public presentation.

V. Approval of Minutes of the November 4, 2004, Regular Meeting

Member Kenney moved to approve the minutes of the November 4, 2004 meeting. Member Nemcek seconded the motion. On voice vote, all voted aye. Motion passed.

VI. Crystal Lake Coloring Book Discussion

Chair Alt distributed a list of coloring book page ideas, which he had already e-mailed to the Commission. Member Kenney also presented a box of Crystal Lake historical postcards. The Commission looked at the post cards for possible coloring book ideas. Member Kenney distributed two coloring books created by the City of McHenry Historic Preservation Commission. Chair Alt stated that Crystal Lake elementary schools teach Illinois history, but do not focus on Crystal Lake history. He mentioned that the coloring book would be a great opportunity to teach the youth about Crystal Lake. Member Wyman asked if the coloring book would have a theme. Chair Alt said the book would be general, not thematic. Member Riegler inquired regarding Crystal Lake high school sports teams, which may have won state championships. Member Kenney stated that this information might be available. Member Riegler stated that a picture of tobogganing and an old fire truck leaving a fire station might be two additional ideas for the book.

Member Kenney asked how the Commission would fund the coloring book. Member Kenney stated that the State IAHPA grant might assist with 60% funding, while the Commission would

provide the other 40%. She also mentioned, that in the past, the City has provided for the 40% match from its operating budget.

Member Wyman asked how the Commission receives funds. Member Kenney explained the sources of revenue for the Commission. Member Kenney stated that through the IAHPA grant, the City could not begin the project until the grant funding has been secured. The Commission discussed what artists could draw the pictures for the coloring book. Chair Alt stated that one artist would be beneficial for the project. Ms. Oberhart stated that more than one artist would add variety and interest to the coloring book. She also stated that an artist might require $200.00 per page/per drawing. Ms. Oberhart asked if employees at Legat could help. Chair Alt stated that he would ask; however, many of his co-workers are busy. Chair Alt asked the Commission to brainstorm as to possible artists for the book. Ms. Oberhart also asked if area art teachers would be willing to assist in the development of the book.

The Commission felt that eight drawings would be sufficient, plus a cover page, for the first book. The Commission also guessed that 1000 copies should be made. Member Kenney stated that the Commission should work with the school districts to distribute the book. Chair Alt mentioned that the Commission could sell the book at the housewalk tour.

VII. Discussion of the 2005 Heritage Tour

Member Riegler expressed her disappointment in the number of individuals that attended the housewalk tour meeting. Member Nemcek said the Commission should attract more houses or move the tour to another street.

VIII. Discussion of the Commission Website

Chair Alt stated that he has pictures for the website for Member Kenney. Member Kenney stated that she is working with Greg Fettes to adjust the website and update the pictures.

IX. Discussion of Historic Properties List for City of Crystal Lake

Chair Alt distributed a list of significant historic structures in the City of Crystal Lake. He stated that the list is incomplete and he would like input from the Commission before he submits the list to the State of Illinois. The State uses the list for road construction planning. Chair Alt agreed to submit the list, as it currently exists, and submit updates to the State as necessary. He asked the Commission to send him updates via e-mail. The Commission felt that the Pierson and Raue houses should be added.

X. Discussion of Historic Sister City – Nunda, NY

Member Kenney communicated to the Commission that she contacted the Village historian of Nunda (pronounced Nundā), NY. Chair Alt asked about the Village's size. Member Kenney stated that the Village's current population is 1,300. Member Kenney stated that Nunda, NY will celebrate its bicentennial soon, and the Nunda Village historian would like to locate other Nunda's. Member Kenney asked the Commission for guidance on future interaction with Nunda, NY. Member Kenney sent a list of early Crystal Lake settlers to the Village historian. She stated the Nunda Historical Society has a website: nundahistory.org.

XI. Member Inquiries and Reports

Member Kenney announced that Historic Preservation Week is being changed to Historic

Preservation Month. Chair Alt asked if other area Commissions were joining together to help celebrate the month. Member Kenney stated, yes, but activities will not be discussed until after the holidays.

Member Kenney would like to display ice cutting instruments and other artifacts from Crystal Lake ice harvesting. The Commission agreed that this would be a good display for the cabinet in the City Hall lobby. Other possible displays could include "Lost Crystal Lake", Crystal Lake resorts, and advertising for the heritage tour.

XII. Chair's Report

Chair Alt announced that the Commission needed to renew its membership to the Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commissions. Member Nemcek moved to expend $80.00 to renew the membership. Member Kenney seconded the motion. On voice vote, all voted aye. Motion passed.

Member Nemcek also announced that he is finalizing the artwork for the Pierson House.

XIII. Adjournment

There being no further business, Member Riegler moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m. Member Nemcek seconded the motion. On voice vote, all voted aye; motion passed.