MINUTES
Historic Preservation Commission
June 4, 2020
City Hall, 100 W. Woodstock Street, Crystal Lake, IL

1) Call to Order
L. Solak, Chair called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

2) Roll Call/Attendance
The following Commission members were present, Hamilton Hale, Nancy Haskins, Diana Kenney, Lisa Solak, Bob Wyman, and Jim Wyman. Staff member Elizabeth Maxwell was present.

3) Public Comment
D. Kenney noted that Brittany Niequist was in attendance and she is the owner of the historic Hale House at 84 N. Walkup. Ms. Niequist introduced herself and said she was excited to learn more about the commission and the historic buildings in Crystal Lake.

4) Approval of Minutes of the May 7, 2020 Regular Meeting
J. Wyman made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 7, 2020 regular meeting. B. Wyman seconded the motion. All members voted aye. Motion passed.

5) Landmark Discussion
L. Solak went through the list of properties that were submitted and noted the ones that had multiple requests as these should be pursued first. B. Wyman stated he looked at Barrington and their historic homes. Their historic commission has established some criteria they can look at. He also asked about grant programs through the City to help fund improvements. Ms. Maxwell explained the City's current grant programs. B. Wyman thought it would be good to talk with someone from Barrington on how they established the historic district and what funding they provide. H. Hale said that someone could attend our meetings virtually so no one needed to go to Barrington and all the commission members could hear the conversation. J. Wyman asked N. Haskins if Elgin had a district. D. Kenney asked if Barrington was a National Register District or a Local District. She explained that National Register is a good creation of a place, but does not protect the buildings. They could also be eligible for federal grants, but those have dried up over the past few years. A local district is what we would want as it would create regulations for protection. B. Wyman said they should look at Downtown, but also the area around Walkup, Caroline and Elmhurst streets. D. Kenney urged everyone to read the Ordinance on how a district needs to be established.

Going back to the list of houses D. Kenney said the commission should pick their top properties. The members went through the list and discussed which properties should be pursued. D. Kenney noted that the Crystal Lake Park District is celebrating their 100-year anniversary and it would be great to landmark the Main Beach Building. The other members agreed. They continued and had selected 10 properties to pursue. Ms. Niequist said she could help out reaching out to her fellow neighbors.

L. Solak asked what the next steps would be. They all agreed that they should generate a standard letter. They also said that the signature should be personalized with the individual

commission members name and contact information. They needed to take ownership of the properties so the homeowners had someone to turn to. D. Kenney asked Ms. Niequist how should would feel about being sent a letter. Ms. Niequist said that a letter would be a good start to soft-touch the history of the home and could peak the interest of the homeowner. If they were to talk more specifics and regulations that would be better to do in person. They started selecting properties they wished to pursue.

6) Meeting Schedule

Ms. Maxwell said that there is no July meeting scheduled since it usually occurs after the Trolley Tour and the commission takes a break. Since there is no trolley tour, did the commission want to hold a meeting and did they want to do it in person. The commission agreed they should meet and would like to do it in person. J. Wyman made a motion to set a meeting date for July 9, 2020. B. Wyman seconded the motion. All members voted aye. Motion passed.

7) Member Inquiries and Reports

D. Kenney said the Colonel Palmer House is still closed, but they plan to open July 11th with an event. They are still limited to occupancy restrictions, so only a few people would be admitted at a time, and they could see the school exhibit. Since the Colonel Palmer House was closed the exhibits have been frozen in time.

8) Adjournment

There being no further business, J. Wyman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. D. Kenney seconded the motion. All members voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.