MINUTES
Historic Preservation Commission
January 5, 2023
City Hall, 100 W. Woodstock Street, Crystal Lake, IL

1) Call to Order
B. Wyman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2) Roll Call/Attendance
The following Commission members were present, Ana Freund, Judi Halter, Diana Kenney, Bob Kosin, Brittany Niequist, and, Bob Wyman. Nancy Haskins and Lisa Solak were absent. City Planner, Elizabeth Maxwell, was present for staff.

3) Public Comment
None.

4) Approval of Minutes of the December 1, 2022 Regular Meeting
B. Kosin made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2023 regular meeting. D. Kenney seconded the motion. On voice vote, all members voted aye. Motion passed.

5) Cemetery Cleaning and Veteran's Book
J. Halter said she was upset not to see N. Haskin's name in the Northwest Herald article about the cemetery book. She knows that it also upset N. Haskins. D. Kenney stated that to avoid an open meetings act violation, only two members at a time could talk to the reporter. She and L. Solak talked with Aaron Dorman. They mentioned all the Commission members and did talk about N. Haskin's contribution to the book. The reporter chose to focus the article on Mitchell Hopkins, the Boyscout that did the initial cleaning, rather than the Commission and the research and writing of the book itself.

D. Kenney did note that the article produced some good publicity so we should focus on that. Several members of the public have reached out including someone willing to help out at the cemetery and the Manager of Warner and Troost Monument Company. She will use this lead to contact him and hope he can provide quotes to get some work done on stabilizing and repairing some stones. The Township has money set aside for some repairs. Also the Crystal Lake Historical Society has a Save Our Stones fund that can be used to clean and repair some stones. The Veteran's stones are the priority.

A Civil War reenactor reached out and also offered help to the Commission. D. Kenney said there are seven veterans from the Civil War 36 Regiment buried at the cemetery. If they did ever want to do an in-person event they may have some actors that could play the veterans.

B. Kosin said he would like to have a press release ready that would speak to the contributions of the members. A. Freund said if they do a second run of the book they could use it in the introduction. B. Wyman asked if maybe a letter to the editor would help clarify the contributions to the book. D. Kenney suggested keeping everything positive and not requesting the article be changed, but talking about the book and the commission in a positive way.

7) Landmark Meeting Follow Up
B. Wyman said he wanted to research John Brink. There was discussion that his house has likely been torn down. D. Kenney said there should be information at the Colonel Palmer House as she has written an article about him for the City newsletter before. Also the McHenry County Historical Society did an article on him. They may also have his journals and survey equipment.

8) Trolley Tour
B. Wyman looked at several different trolley tour companies. He went through a spreadsheet that summarized the totals. Way to Go Trolley was the cheapest. They discussed this being a new vendor. B. Wyman and B. Kosin volunteered to go to the trolley company and look at the trolleys to be sure they would meet the needs of the Commission.

D. Kenney said since expenses are rising they will need to sell ads in the book or other advertising to help with the costs. At the suggested $20 per ticket they will break even if they sell out. B. Niequist suggested having a "house" sponsor with a larger marketing sign. Staff said this could be handled through a special event that would allow the off-site signage for advertisers. They brainstormed about other fundraising such as a trolley sponsor if the trolleys have a panel on their side. Each member could go to their favorite restaurant or shop and ask if they want to purchase an ad. A. Freund looked at the past sponsors in the books. D. Kenney said she would look for the advertising information including the sponsorship letter. A. Freund suggested the website be updated to reflect the new trolley tour date. The City can do a Facebook post as it gets closer to the date.

D. Kenney drove the route and found a problem, she shared the new route order and the house list. Then at the next meeting they need to split up the houses for research and verification that they are Sears Homes.

They discussed the ticket prices and wanted to confirm the prices of $20 for pre-sale and $25 day of. B. Wyman asked for a motion on the ticket prices. B. Kosin made a motion to set the ticket prices at $20 in advance and $25 day of the tour. D. Kenney seconded the motion. On voice vote all members voted aye.

So far they have B. Niequist and D. Kenney as tour guides. They need another helper and a partnership of a helper and tour guide for the tours.

9) Member Inquiries and Reports
B. Wyman would like notification and information when the City Council votes on HPC items.

10) Adjournment
There being no further business, D. Kenney made a motion to adjourn the meeting. B. Niequist seconded the motion. On voice vote, all members voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.