

**MINUTES
CITY OF ST. CHARLES IL
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2012
COUNCIL COMMITTEE ROOM**

Present: Chairman Smunt, Bobowiec, Norris, Prestidge, Pretz, Weals, and Withey

Also Present: Russell Colby, Planning Division Manager
Debbie Graffagna, Recording Secretary

1. Call to order.

Chairman Smunt called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and requested that cell phones be turned off or be placed on silent.

2. Approval of agenda.

3. Presentation of minutes of the December 21, 2011 meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Withey and seconded by Mr. Bobowiec, with a unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes as presented.

4. COA: 204 W. Main Street (Vestibule and sign)

Mr. Colby advised that the proposal is for the installation of awning/entrance vestibule at the rear of the Beehive Tavern. The vestibule will be covered in a black fabric material. A logo sign will be placed on the vestibule. The Commission discussed that this vestibule was for protection from the weather and that it was not permanently installed and could be removed. From the discussion all agreed that it would be more efficient if there was a door closure and that the construction details will need to meet code and will be reviewed by the Building and Code Enforcement Division.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the COA for 204 W. Main Street with an advisory recommendation to install a door closure. The motion carried by voice vote; Ms. Weals voted “nay”.

5. COA: 411 West Main Street (sign)

Mr. Colby addressed to the Commission the proposal is the installation of two-2 sign faces in an existing freestanding sign for the St. Charles Bank and Trust. The sign has an inset location for a sign panel that is currently used to display an address number. The following is from a round table discussion: The sign structure is located on South 5th Street. Some of the Commission members felt that the size of the address numbers in the sign was too small; others felt that since this was not the main location of the address, it would be up to the Building and Code

Enforcement Division to determine. After discussion it was agreed that the Commission would request an increase in the font size and the address number to be relocated below the sign.

A motion was made by Mr. Prestidge and seconded by Ms. Weals to approve the COA for the first three lines of the sign with the exclusion of the street address numbers.

A motion to amend was made by Chairman Smunt and seconded by Mr. Withey with a unanimous voice vote to state that the address numbers are to be located below the sign on the monument and to increase the size of sign lettering to fill the panel.

A motion was made by Mr. Prestidge and seconded by Mr. Withey, with a unanimous voice vote to approve the amended motion.

6) Announcements: Historic Preservation Commission meeting Wednesday January 18, 2012 at 7:00pm in the Council Committee Room.

7. Additional business.

a) Chairman Smunt explained that the Downtown Partnership is working on a program called “History in Plain View.” The program will consist of historical information on plaques. The information will contain photographs and text on events that occurred at the site or building. The Partnership received a grant for \$5,000 and they have obtained a designer and she has designed four different options. The locations for these plaques have not been determined; however, the first location will be the Municipal building and plaza, pending approval from the City. Chairman Smunt explained that he has draft concept drawings and he advised that that he would forward them to Mr. Colby. Chairman Smunt stated that this very tasteful program and feels that the Commission will agree.

b) Chairman Smunt mentioned that the Downtown Partnership is seeking someone from Perseveration Partners that would be interested in being on the sub-committee for the “History in Plain View” project and added that they would be gathering historic information on each of the plaques. Chairman Smunt advised that at the meeting Pat Pretz’s name was mentioned. Mr. Pretz advised Chairman Smunt to contact his wife directly to see if she would be interested in participating on this sub-committee.

c) Mr. Bobowiec announced that he has approached Mr. Penzato in regard to landmarking of his property and that he provided him the application and has agreed to help him with the research.

d) Ms. Weals questioned if she should contact Ms. Hunter on the Mail Order Homes project. Chairman Smunt responded that she should contact Ms. Hunter; however, this would be for FY 2012/2013. Ms. Weals questioned how she should word the request to Ms. Hunter. Mr. Colby suggested asking about her rate and what is included. Chairman Smunt suggested that Ms. Weals advise her that the Commission liked her presentation and they would like to rely on her expertise to help them do a survey here and see if she is interested and if so, how she expects to be paid for her time and expertise. This information is needed within the next thirty-days and the

length of time would depend on her pricing. The information that the Commission is seeking is actual documentation of the mail order houses.

8. Adjournment.

A motion was made by Mr. Prestidge and seconded by Mr. Withey, with a unanimous voice vote to adjourn the meeting.

With no further discussion, the meeting ended at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Smunt, Chairman
Historic Preservation Commission

/dlg