

**MINUTES
CITY OF ST. CHARLES IL
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2012
COUNCIL COMMITTEE ROOM**

Members Present: Chairman Smunt, Bobowiec, Norris, Weals, and Withey

Members Absent: Prestidge, Pretz

Also Present: Russell Colby, Planning Division Manager
Caroline Wells, Recording Secretary

1. Call to order.

Chairman Smunt called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. and requested cell phones be turned off.

2. Roll call.

Before the approval of agenda Mr. Colby explained the attorneys require a roll call for all meetings to verify a quorum. A roll call was taken with 5 members present and 2 members absent.

3. Approval of agenda.

Chairman Smunt added under Additional Business 7A) Windows located at 214 S. 3rd St. 7B) A friend that rehabs old homes.

A motion was made by Mr. Bobowiec and seconded by Ms. Weals, with a unanimous voice vote to approve agenda as amended.

4. Presentation of minutes of the January 4, 2012 meeting.

Ms. Weals noted her name was misspelled in minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Bobowiec and seconded by Mr. Withey to approve minutes with corrections. There was a unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes with corrections.

5. COA: Signs for History in Plain View Program

There was discussion on the material and the base of the sign. The Commission discussed the durability of the sign panel. Mr. Norris asked if the signs are etched. Chairman Smunt stated they will be polycarbonate. Mr. Bobowiec was concerned that the signs may fade out. Mr. Norris asked if there is an example of the sign to inspect. Chairman Smunt stated there is a sign at Alexander Lumber in Batavia. Chairman Smunt clarified the signs are being funded by the

Downtown Partnership through a Kane County riverboat grant they obtained. The commission reviewed the panel drawings, including the selected sign panel design with the rounded corners.

A motion was made by Mr. Bobowiec and seconded by Ms. Weals, with a unanimous vote to approve the COA as presented.

6. Work Plan

The Commission reviewed the summary of Historic Preservation Commission 2012 Draft Work Plan.

1) Landmarking

2) Public Education/Programs

Mr. Colby brought up the Zook Seminar. He stated he and the author were trying to decide on a date for the seminar. He asked the Committee for suggestions. Mr. Bobowiec suggested Historic Preservation week in May. His concern was having enough time to advertise for the event. Chairman Smunt suggested in March. His thoughts were that people would rather be inside during March. Chairman Smunt suggested talking to Preservation Partners and Heritage Center to advertise the event.

3) Mail Order Homes

Ms. Weals contacted Gail Borden Public Library regarding a survey of mail order homes completed by Rebecca Hunter. The problem is there is only one copy of the book and she is reluctant to lend it out. Mr. Colby has been in contact with her as well. Ms. Weals and Mr. Colby will continue to pursue this project.

4) Downtown Design Guidelines

Chairman Smunt thought Mr. Pretz would help and two members of the Design Committee. It will be a sub-committee. The goal is to make the document usable.

7. Additional Business.

- a) Mr. Colby stated he was contacted about replacing the windows located at 214 S. 3rd St. Mr. Bobowiec stated the information submitted is not current. Some windows are original, some are vinyl or aluminum. Mr. Colby stated the applicant wants to install double hung windows.

Mr. Bobowiec wanted the applicant to be present, so they could discuss what material the owner would like to replace windows with. Chairman Smunt stated he is eligible for grant money and would like it properly restored.

- b) Chairman Smunt stated a patient of his buys older homes and rehabs them to sell. One home in particular is located at the southwest corner of 6th and Walnut Streets. His thoughts are if there is someone interested in buying an older home, we could refer them to this individual. Chairman Smunt will get his business card.

c) There was a question regarding the status of the Dunham Hunt house.

8) Adjournment.

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

With nothing further was discussed and the meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Smunt, Chairman
Historic Preservation Commission

/csw