



## CITY OF PARK RIDGE

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY  
PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

### HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, April 13, 2011  
City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, CP&D Conference Room  
505 Butler Place  
Park Ridge, Illinois

#### MINUTES

Draft Minutes  
Not for  
Publication

Chairwoman Barclay called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

#### A. ROLL CALL

##### Present

Paul Adlaf  
Judy Barclay, Chairwoman  
Barbara Christopher  
Audra Ebling  
John Mackin (Arrived 6:25)  
Shel Newman  
Janine Schmeltz  
Juliet Tiu

##### Staff

Jon Branham  
Laura Kleiner

##### Others Present

Approximately 2 citizens

##### Absent

Ann Eriksson

#### B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Regular Meeting Minutes of March 2, 2011

It was moved by Commissioner Adlaf, and seconded by Commissioner Tiu, that the minutes of the meeting held on March 2, 2011, be approved, as submitted.

The Commissioners, by voice vote, unanimously approved the minutes.

### **C. CITIZENS WISHING TO BE HEARD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Margaret Guzek, 2911 North Talman Avenue, Chicago, stated that there was a house on Cedar Street that could possibly be a Sears house. She also stated that obtaining approval of the property owners to designate the Cedar Court area as an historic district was proving to be difficult. Chairwoman Barclay stated that part of the issue is that the historic district designation requirements in Park Ridge seem to conflict with the Certified Local Government (CLG) guidelines, and this was an item that needed to be addressed.

### **D. DESIGNATION REVIEW CASES**

There were no designation review cases.

### **E. OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

#### **1. Review and Approval of Historic Preservation Commission Brochures/Flyers**

The Commissioners were pleased with the final version of the brochure and flyer. Mr. Branham stated he would be investigating funding opportunities for printing the documents. Commissioner Eriksson had previously obtained estimates from a printing source.

#### **2. Review/Update of Education Outreach Poster Contest**

Commissioner Tiu outlined her efforts in contacting the schools and coordinating the poster contest. She thanked Commissioners Schmeltz and Ebling for their assistance. She suggested that the top three entries from each school be sent to the Commission for final selection of a winner. Commissioner Ebling suggested that all entries be sent to allow the Commissioners thorough review.

Commissioner Newman stated that he would like to see everyone who participates receive some recognition.

Chairwoman Barclay stated that she liked the idea of a competition and hoped to get donations from local businesses as possible prizes.

The Commissioners agreed to send out the information the following week and extend the contest for three weeks, wrapping it up by Memorial Day. They chose the first Monday in June (June 6, 2011), to present the winners at the City Council meeting. Commissioner Ebling volunteered to pick up the entries on May 23, 2011. The teachers should place all entries in an envelope, indicating the top three choices. All third grade students who live in Park Ridge or attend a Park Ridge school will be eligible to submit a poster. The contest forms will be available at the schools, the Park Ridge Library, and City Hall. There will also be a press release. Additionally, the information and forms will be placed on the City's website.

#### **3. CLG Update**

Jon Branham stated that Mike Ward, from the Illinois Historic Preservation Association (IHPA), outlined five points that would likely need to be added to the Park Ridge Historic

Preservation Ordinance in order to qualify for the State's tax incentive programs. They include:

1. The roles played by the Director of Preservation and Community Development and the Historic Preservation Commission need to be clarified. As written, the Director has the power to approve projects without Commission oversight.
2. The ordinance says 50% of property owners have to consent to the application for historic district designation, but a later provision raises the number to approve the district designation to two-thirds of all property owners.
3. The timeline for designation of landmarks and historic district is not defined.
4. An historic district can contain no non-historic properties. This would make district designations almost impossible. Usually, non-historic properties are noted as non-contributing structures. They are also subject to the design review process, particularly demolition, as they could have an impact on adjacent structures.
5. City property is exempt from the review process. All eligible buildings should be included in the review process.

Mr. Branham offered to speak to the City Attorney for help in drafting the revisions.

## **F. NEW BUSINESS**

Chairwoman Barclay noted that the Iannelli Studio has been placed on the "Ten Most Endangered Historic Places" list by Landmarks Illinois. She stated that the Kalo Foundation had raised over \$100,000 toward purchasing the property.

Ms. Barclay also reminded the Commissioners of the upcoming programs being presented by the Historical Society. Next Sunday, Ward Miller will speak on his book, "The Complete Architecture of Adler and Sullivan". Also on May 1<sup>st</sup> Lee Bey will speak on "Park Ridge Modern", regarding post-World War II architecture at the Summit in Uptown. Most of the presentations are free to the public.

Chairwoman Barclay announced that Vince Michael of the Art Institute is allowing an intern to assist the Historic Preservation Commission with surveying efforts this summer.

Mr. Branham noted that he had received another application for landmark designation for 424 Talcott Place. He is working with the owners on obtaining additional items of documentation necessary for the nomination.

Chairwoman Barclay stated that she had spoken to Dino Vlahakis, the owner of the Pickwick Theater Building, who indicated they might put a message concerning celebrating Historic Preservation Month on the theater marquee at some point during the month of May.

Commissioner Adlaf stated that he had also spoken to Mr. Vlahakis, concerning the remodeling planned for the theater. Mr. Vlahakis is a strong advocate of historic preservation and is planning to incorporate historic elements with a larger screen and improved seating.

Mr. Adlaf also reported that City Council had voted to keep the monument-style street signs in Park Ridge, modeled after the Washington Monument obelisk, and add the newer signs, which are being required by the federal government. He wondered if these signs could have landmark status. Commissioner Christopher noted that there were other elements in Park Ridge, such as the Berry Parkway entry gates and the drinking fountain that needed to be

protected. Chairwoman Barclay stated that the Commission could nominate these elements. The Commissioners discussed other items that should be considered such as the orphanage pillar on Touhy Avenue and the Washington Tree at Field School. Commissioner Christopher noted that landscapes could also be designated as historic.

Commissioner Newman inquired about the status of the Town of Maine Cemetery for landmark designation. Chairwoman Barclay stated that she had met with the owners, who were very enthusiastic, but have not been able to obtain the title and survey required to apply.

**G. ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judy Barclay, Chairwoman

These minutes are not a verbatim record of the meeting but a summary of the proceedings.