



CITY OF PARK RIDGE

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY
PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, September 7, 2011
City Hall, Council Chambers
505 Butler Place
Park Ridge, Illinois

MINUTES

Chairwoman Barclay called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL

Present

Paul Adlaf
Judy Barclay, Chairwoman
Barbara Christopher
Audra Ebling
John Mackin
Shel Newman
Juliet Tiu

Staff

Jon Branham
Laura Kleiner

Others Present

Approximately 2 citizens

Absent

Ann Eriksson
Janine Schmeltz

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Regular Meeting Minutes of July 13, 2011

It was moved by Commissioner Ebling, and seconded by Commissioner Tiu, that the minutes of the meeting held on July 13, 2011, be approved, as submitted.

Joan Sandrick, 409 S. Clifton Avenue, noted that the approved meeting minutes for June 1, 2011 contained typographical errors on page three, 3rd paragraph. The Zoning Ordinance section numbers should be 23.4.2.B.1 and 23.4.2.3.A.2. The Commission agreed to this change.

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

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

There were no citizens wishing to be heard on non-agenda items.

D. DESIGNATION REVIEW CASES - None

Mr. Branham stated that there were no current landmark designation applications for review. He noted that two applications should be forthcoming in October.

E. OTHER ITEMS**1. Action Item – Additional proposed changes to Historic Preservation Ordinance**

Chairwoman Barclay discussed the proposed changes Alderman Smith suggested be made to the Historic Preservation Ordinance. The City Council had deferred the discussion of the suggested changes until September 26, 2011 Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting.

On a motion by Commissioner Newman, seconded by Commissioner Tiu, the Commissioners voted unanimously to discuss the eight items individually.

1. Section 23-1-6-G - Chairwoman Barclay recommended omitting this suggested change, as it could be problematic. The Commissioners agreed to omit this change. Section 23-1-6-F and Section 23-1-6-H – The Commission stated that they needed further explanation of the meaning of the suggested changes but likely this did not need to be added to the Ordinance.
2. Section 23-4-2/A.1 - Chairwoman Barclay noted that this change would eliminate the owner of a property who was a non-resident. The Commissioners agreed it was appropriate to maintain the current language of the section.
3. Section 23-4-2/A.2 - Chairwoman Barclay noted that the Historical Preservation Commission was a recommending body and that the cases must still be approved at the City Council level. Owner consent is still required. The Commissioners agreed to maintain this section of the Ordinance.
4. Section 23-4-2/B.1- Chairwoman Barclay declared that when the Ordinance was written, efforts were made to be consistent other city policies. For example, to pave an alley, “50% plus 1” was the number of residents needed to approve the paving. Commissioner Christopher stated that it was important to remain consistent. Joan Sandrick stated that she agreed with Alderman Smith’s suggested change and believed that “50% + 1” was not sufficient. She suggested a 2/3 majority. The Commissioners agreed to maintain this section of the Ordinance.
5. Section 23-4-2/B.2 - The Commissioners noted that this section was recently changed to a non-refundable filing fee of \$100 and agreed to keeping this section in the Ordinance as written.
6. Section 23-4-2/C.1.d - Commissioner Newman stated that he did not believe the statement was true. The Commissioners agreed that this “warning” sounded ominous and did not appear on any other form from the City. They agreed that this section should not be added to the Ordinance.
7. Section 23-4-3/A.2 – The Commissioners agreed that for the same reasons as cited in suggestion number four, this section should not be changed.

8. Section 23-5-5 - The Commissioners stated that the changes to this section suggested by Alderman Smith would reduce and diminish the abilities of the Commission. They agreed to keep this section as written.

Collectively, the Commission agreed no additional changes should be made to the Ordinance.

Commissioner Newman asked if representatives from the Historical Preservation Commission would be attending the September 26, 2011 COW meeting to present the Commission's thoughts. Chairwoman Barclay stated that she planned on attending the meeting and encouraged other members to attend. She added that the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance was non-restrictive compared to others adopted by surrounding communities.

F. NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Newman noted that the Maine Township building was a Lloyd Wright (Frank's son) building and should be preserved. Chairwoman Barclay noted that some architectural drawings on the walls were fading and should be protected.

Commissioner Ebling asked that the list of those whom the Commission had sent letters to consider landmark status is reviewed and additional letters be sent to property owners.

The Commissioners discussed additional properties that may be significant and should possibly be added to the list, including 728 Wesley Avenue, 1103 South Crescent Avenue, other properties along Talcott Place, and 417 North Northwest Highway.

Commissioner Christopher noted that the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA) website included a Geographical Information Systems (GIS) link with a historical map, which includes Park Ridge properties. Commissioner Christopher noted that it might be helpful to see if the properties match up with properties that were sent letters.

The Commissioners discussed historic districts and Mr. Newman questioned the number of properties needed for a historic district. Mr. Branham stated that it was defined in the Ordinance as two or more zoning lots.

Commissioner Newman inquired about the status of the brochures for the Historic Preservation Commission. Chairwoman Barclay noted that funding was still an obstacle at this time, but other resources are being investigated.

Chairwoman Barclay suggested holding a workshop to describe the Historic Preservation process and help alleviate any concerns. She noted that one was held in the mid-1990s that was well attended. Additionally, one was conducted a couple years ago in conjunction with the IHPA for the Historic Preservation Task Force. Catherine O'Connor of IHPA conducted the presentation. Ms. Barclay stated that it was important to spread the word about historic preservation and that the successful purchase of the Iannelli Studio proved that the community could come together to save historic structures. She suggested possibly holding the workshop next spring.

Chairwoman Barclay stated that local Eagle Scouts have volunteered to help out at the Iannelli Studio.

- G. ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 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.