



CITY OF PARK RIDGE

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY
PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

**Wednesday, January 5, 2011
Council Chambers, City Hall
505 Butler Place
Park Ridge, Illinois**

MINUTES

Chairwoman Barclay called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL

Present

Paul Adlaf
Judy Barclay, Chairwoman
Audra Ebling
Ann Eriksson
John Mackin
Shel Newman
Janine Schmeltz
Juliet Tiu

Staff

Jon Branham
Kathryn Delk

Others Present

Approximately 7 citizens

Absent

Barbara Christopher

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Regular Meeting Minutes of December 1, 2010

It was moved by Commissioner Eriksson, and seconded by Commissioner Adlaf, that the minutes of the meeting held on December 1, 2010, be approved, as amended.

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

Chairwoman Barclay made a motion to move “Citizens Wishing to be Heard on Non-Agenda Items” to the top of the agenda. It was moved by Commissioner Eriksson, and seconded by Commissioner Adlaf. The motion passed.

C. DESIGNATION REVIEW CASES - None

D. OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Iannelli Studio Site Update - Designation Review Request and Commission Action

Chairwoman Barclay stated the vulnerability of this site has made national news. An anonymous donor has come forward stating that he/she would match one dollar for every two dollars raised up to \$200,000 through July 4, 2011. Commissioner Eriksson reported that so far, \$38,000 has been received.

Chairwoman Barclay hopes that the Commission would like to move forward with nominating the property for landmark designation. By doing so, it would be helpful in making Park Ridge a destination.

Commissioner Mackin asked for clarification on the designation process. Chairwoman Barclay reminded everyone that owner consent is still required. All she is asking the Commission to vote on is to move forward to nominate the site for designation.

Commissioner Mackin asked what portion of the site would be saved. Chairwoman Barclay stated that the whole site is considered significant.

Commissioner Eriksson stated that she is on a committee to "Save Iannelli Studios" and they have created a brochure that she passed around for Commissioner review.

Commissioner Ebling wondered if the former property owner is aware of the landmark designation effort. Chairwoman Barclay stated that the developer interested in the site is aware, and that the attorney associated with the property will pass word on to the former property owner soon.

The Commission unanimously agreed to recommend the nomination of the Iannelli site for designation.

Chairwoman Barclay reminded the Commission to avoid making donations to the Iannelli Studio fundraiser at this time since there could then be financial interest in the case.

2. Review of draft Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for website/brochure

Jon Branham stated that he has been given approval to post the FAQs on the website.

Commissioner Adlaf submitted changes to the FAQs.

Commissioner Newman asked how the FAQ were compiled. Mr. Branham stated that he created the document himself based on information other communities generally include on websites. Commissioner Newman would like to see a place on the website where people could submit questions directly online related to Historic Preservation. Mr. Branham stated that he would investigate adding a section to the website.

Ms. Sandrick, 409 South Clifton Avenue, would like the word "tax" to be removed when referring to "tax benefits." She felt that it alludes to something that will be tempting to applicants, but will be difficult to provide. She would also like the section referring to owner consent to be moved closer to the top of the document.

Ms. Sandrick did not feel that it is possible to have a landmark property rescinded. She would like the FAQs to address that it is difficult to have a landmark rescinded. Chairwoman Barclay stated that it was not necessary, since it is still possible to rescind a landmark.

Ms. Sandrick wondered how economic hardship is proven. Chairwoman Barclay stated that this issue is related to a Certificate of Appropriateness more so than a landmark designation. If a new owner were to move into a landmarked property, it would be up to them to plead their case to the Commission as to why the landmark should be rescinded. Every case, just as it is done in any other Commission, is heard separately, and judged on a case-by-case basis.

Ms. Guzek asked for a copy of the FAQs. Chairwoman Barclay gave her a copy and Mr. Branham stated that anyone could also review them on the City's website.

Ms. Sandrick asked that an explanation be added to the FAQs to address what someone would need to do if they wanted to alter a landmarked property. Chairwoman Barclay stated that it was already included in the FAQ.

Ms. Sandrick asked where it is written that Appearance Commission approval is not required when an alteration is proposed to a landmarked property. Chairwoman Barclay stated that it is part of a Certificate of Appropriateness. Ms. Sandrick felt that it should be written as part of an Ordinance.

E. NEW BUSINESS

Chairwoman Barclay asked Commissioner Ebling how the flyer and brochure was coming along. She stated that once the FAQs were approved, she would be able to come back with a draft for the next meeting.

Commissioners Mackin and Eriksson submitted a list of homes they felt should be added to the list of potential landmarked properties.

Chairwoman Barclay stated that Vince Michael and Tim Samuelson would be coming to the area to speak soon. She plans on asking Mr. Michael if he has an intern available to conduct a historic survey of properties in Park Ridge.

Commissioner Mackin would like a map to be created showing all the potential sites for landmark designation that the Commissioners have submitted thus far. This way they would be able to see what areas of town they have focused on and what areas they should look to for possible sites. Mr. Branham stated that he would discuss with the City's GIS consultant and have a map created.

Chairwoman Barclay asked the Commission if any property owners interested in landmark designation have approached them. She has noticed that there have been a few people who have expressed interest, but then fail to submit a formal application. Commissioner Ebling stated that it is a busy time of year and it is possible that people are waiting to move forward until after the New Year. Commissioner Adlaf suggested that people need to get used to the process and that he felt that the promotional brochure would help raise awareness. Chairwoman Barclay added that the FAQs would also help.

Commissioner Newman asked for an update on the Maine Cemetery application for landmark designation. Chairwoman Barclay reported that she has made calls to them, but has yet to receive

a call back. She plans on making an in-person trip to meet with them soon. The Cemetery board did vote to move forward with the designation. Commissioner Newman wondered if they received an application. Chairwoman Barclay stated that it was part of the presentation packet they were given.

Mr. Branham stated that he has not yet received an answer from the City Attorney regarding lowering the application fee to \$100. The Commission felt that the \$100 fee should apply to both commercial, as well as, residential applications.

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

Joan Sandrick, 409 South Clifton Avenue, would like a copy of the Historic Preservation list of potential sites for designation, as well as, a copy of the 1977 Historic Inventory Survey. Chairwoman Barclay stated that the list is still a work in progress. The Commission did not intend to put it on the website. Ms. Sandrick wondered if it would generate interest if it were made public. Chairwoman Barclay responded stating that each property placed on the list received a letter letting them know that their house is viewed as a potential landmark site.

Ms. Sandrick also inquired as to whether there was an architect on the Historic Preservation Commission. Commissioner Mackin stated he is an architect and active member of the Historic Preservation Commission.

Ms. Sandrick wondered if the Commission planned on discussing plaques at this meeting. Chairwoman Barclay stated that they had not planned on it unless there was something that she would like to discuss. Ms. Sandrick noted that in the minutes from a previous meeting, Chairwoman Barclay stated that Commissioner Newman did not want a plaque to be displayed in his property. Chairwoman Barclay stated that the minutes reflect Commissioner Newman’s feelings towards not wanting a plaque to be affixed to his house. There are other alternatives, including a post with a plaque that could be installed closer to the sidewalk where it could be easier for public to read and learn about a landmark. Ms. Sandrick wondered if the taxpayers would be paying for the cost of the plaques. Chairwoman Barclay stated that the expense would be at the cost of the taxpayer.

G. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 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.