

**MINUTES OF THE PARK RIDGE HERITAGE COMMITTEE** meeting held on Tuesday June 13, 2017 at 3:45 p.m. at the Park Ridge City Hall:

Members present: Milton E. Nelson (presiding), Richard DuSold, Paul Adlaf, Patricia Adlaf, Nancy Pytel, Laurie Pegler Malin. (Mr. Kohler and Mr. Wade are unable to be with us today.)

The Minutes of the May 9 meeting of the Heritage Committee were noted and discussed. The Minutes had earlier been mailed to all members by Mrs. Adlaf. By motion and second, the Minutes of May 9 were approved as printed, including an attached memo by Mrs. Adlaf dated May 9.

Mr. Nelson recalled two subcommittee meetings held since May 9. On May 11, five members of the Heritage Committee met with Police Chief Kaminski and two other officers at City Hall. This meeting was requested by the Heritage Committee due to the threatening letter received from a local resident of Park Ridge, denouncing and threatening our plans to have a plaque for Hillary Clinton in Hodges Park. Chief Kaminski assured us that the Park Ridge Police Department would separate any protestors from any ceremony we might schedule to dedicate the plaque. We thanked the police staff for meeting with us and for listening to our concerns.

Then on May 25, three members of our committee met Dr. Laurie Heinz, Superintendent of District 64 at her office. We presented her with eight copies of our new *Milestones of Park Ridge* book, these books to be placed in each of the eight school libraries of District 64. Each book includes a dedicatory statement explaining the presentation. A picture of this event was sent to the local papers.

Mr. Otto Kohler (not present today) has contacted District 207 administration about providing books to the high schools in District 207. He suggests we go to the district office in August, when school is about to begin, and that we give books to all three schools, East, South, and West. Perhaps August would be the best time, when school begins once again. It is suggested also that perhaps Mrs. Mattingly can coordinate with the private schools about receiving books.

Mrs. Patricia Adlaf emphasizes our need to promote the selling of our book. She has inquired about the Taste of Park Ridge, the Farmers' Market, and has contacted some local realtors. Laurie Pegler Malin says she will inquire about permission for a table at the Farmers' Market.

Mr. Richard DuSold has contacted Summit Square to suggest books be purchased for residents there.

Mrs. Adlaf gave her treasurer's report. We now have over \$6,000 in our bank account, with an outstanding loan of \$4,000 to be repaid. She says 49 books have been sold on Amazon.com.

Mr. Nelson distributed a page with four sample wording possibilities for the proposed Hillary Rodham Clinton marker in Hodges Park. The wording needs to be concise, accurate, and non-political. Several suggestions were made to edit and improve the wording. Mrs. Malin says we should include dates for Mrs. Clinton's offices. It was noted that all the existing plaques have under one hundred characters each, in order to fit on the stone marker. Thus, the 2016 marker

must be similarly limited in size. It is suggested that a printed brochure could possibly contain more details not listed on the stone marker.

At this point, the question of funding the plaque in Hodges Park was discussed at length. Mrs. Adlaf proposed in her May 9 memorandum a rationale for not accepting outside funding for this project, but rather to pay the costs through our own treasury, as book sales receipts become available. It was mentioned that at least four offers have been made by community members to help raise funds for this project. After a bit of discussion, Mrs. Adlaf proposed the following motion:

Resolved, it shall be the policy of the Park Ridge Heritage Committee alone to decide on the proper wording for the proposed marker for Hillary Rodham Clinton, and that the Heritage Committee alone will provide the funds for this project, at such a time as preparations are ready for the construction of the marker. Outside funds will not be accepted.

This motion and second was approved unanimously. And of course a contract must be signed with John Gast and Company, with final pricing yet to be negotiated. The question of how to dedicate the plaque also arose. Should there be a public ceremony or a private unveiling? To be determined.

Mr. Paul Adlaf gave us a report on the Solomon Cottage in Prospect Park, which is being restored as the new Museum of the Park Ridge Historical Society. The Park Ridge City Council on June 5 gave preliminary approval for the cottage to be proclaimed a Local Landmark. The final approval may be given on June 19. Meanwhile, the restoration work continues, with August as a possible completion date.

The Committee was honored to have with us today Laurie Pegler Malin of Park Ridge. By motion and second, she is invited to become a member of the Park Ridge Heritage Committee, effective today. This motion and second was approved unanimously.

At 5:00 p.m. a motion to adjourn was agreed to. Our next meeting will be on July 11, 2017.

Submitted by,

*Milton E. Nelson*