

CITY OF BELVIDERE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES
February 28, 2023
5:30 pm
City Hall, 401 Whitney Boulevard

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sonya Dobberfuhr, Chair
Claudia Colla, Vice-Chair
Alexandra Omiotek
David Larson
Dawn Brooks

Staff Present:

Gina DelRose, Community Development Planner

Members Absent:

David Larson

Sonya Dobberfuhr called the meeting to order at 5:33pm.

MINUTES: It was moved and seconded (Omiotek/Brooks) to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2023 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Sonya Dobberfuhr and Dawn Brooks both participated in the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office's webinar and passed out information.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Work Plan

2023 Awards Program: Gina DelRose continued to encourage commissioners to look for potential award winners.

Promotional/Fundraising Events: Gina DelRose stated that the Commission received \$113 from the Maggio's Pizzeria fundraiser. Ms. DelRose stated that she was thankful that Maggio's hosted the fundraiser and did most of the work.

Sonya Dobberfuhr stated that Gary Simon will be happy to participate in a garden tour and has plants growing all year long.

Sandie Omiotek stated that her garden will not be ready in the Spring but could potentially be ready in the fall or next year.

Barbara Volk confirmed that participating properties should be within the City of Belvidere.

It was decided that participating properties need to be confirmed by July in order to host the fundraiser in September.

Sonya Dobberfuhr stated that hosting a prohibition themed tour highlighting Belvidere's prohibition history would be an interesting fundraiser.

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Claudia Colla suggested an artist sale that includes stained glass pieces, a 50/50 raffle, donated auction items, etc.

Barbara Volk stated that there was an art sale fundraiser held at the Community Building in the past that was very successful. Ms. Volk stated that a dinner and silent auction could be held as well.

Claudia Colla stated that artists could speak during the event, describing what making art means to them.

Sonya Dobberfuhl stated that there could be a walking tour of the downtown showcasing the evolution of the buildings.

Maintenance Small Grant: Gina DelRose stated that two applications have been received so far.

Gina DelRose stated that she sent 115 W. Lincoln Avenue a letter stating that they would lose their grant if no communication was received and she has yet to receive any communication from them.

The Commission decided that the grant for 115 W. Lincoln Avenue has expired since no request for extensions or updates were received.

10 Year Plan: No updates.

Expenditures: No updates.

Friends of Preservation: No updates.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Images of American Belvidere and Boone County

Royalties: No updates.

Book Sales: No updates.

DISCUSSION:

Barbara Volk questioned if there were any neighborhood associations that acted as guidance for homeowners.

Gina DelRose stated that she was not aware of any that were based on a neighborhood's identity versus the standard homeowners association.

The Commission discussed reaching out to the newspapers regarding articles in honor of National Preservation Week April 24-28, 2023 and National Preservation Month in May. The Commission discussed that the articles would be a great way to clarify the difference between the Belvidere Historic Preservation Commission and the Boone County Museum of History's Historical Society and what it means to be a landmarked property.

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Dawn Brooks stated that May would be a good month to do the downtown tour as a celebration of National Preservation Month.

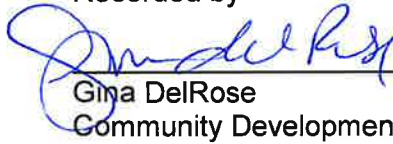
The Commission discussed contacting the Belvidere Board of Realtors to present what you can and cannot do with landmarked properties so that sellers and buyers are aware. Every town is different with their regulations and those used to extremely restrictive regulations may be scared off by a landmark status.

Staff Report: None.

NEXT MEETING DATE: March 28, 2023

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:39 pm.

Recorded by

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gina DelRose", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Gina DelRose
Community Development Planner