

**CITY OF BELVIDERE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES  
May 23, 2017  
5:30 pm  
City Council Chambers**

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Becky Tobin, Chair  
David Kummerow  
Lisa Irvine Kummerow  
Anna Pivoras  
Filitsa Platopoulos  
Alexandra Omiotek

**Staff Present:**

Gina DelRose, Community Development Planner

**Members Absent**

Kris Bryan, Vice Chair

With a quorum present, Chair, Becky Tobin called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm.

**MINUTES:** It was moved and seconded (Irvine Kummerow\Pivoras) to approve the minutes from the April 25, 2017 meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: None**

**NEW BUSINESS: None**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Work Plan**

**2017 Awards Program:** The commission felt the awards program went well.

Gina DelRose stated that the total cost of the awards program was \$978.23. Ms. DelRose stated that \$150 worth of ad space was sold as well.

Becky Tobin stated that the revenue generated by ad sales goes towards the maintenance grant fund.

Becky Tobin reminded the commissioners to look for properties for the 2018 awards.

**Promotional /Fund Raising Events:** Becky Tobin stated that the Progressive Dinner interest letters will be sent out. The date will be the weekend of September 9, 2017.

David Kummerow stated that Judi Zangs told him that the Poplar Grove Vintage Wheels and Wings Museum has done four murder mystery dinners that have been very successful. They have been able to obtain aeronautical sponsors for the events.

Becky Tobin stated that it would be nice if the Commission could obtain sponsors for the dinner.

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David Kummerow stated that if there is proper insurance, the Post Office building could be used. Mr. Kummerow stated that Lisa Irvine Kummerow has been researching mystery dinner packages online.

Lisa Irvine Kummerow stated that the size of the group and number of props wanted greatly impacts the price of the kits.

Anna Pivoras stated that she went to a mystery dinner at the Tinker Cottage which they wrote themselves. It went over very well but it was designed for a small group.

Becky Tobin stated that the City's intern could help.

Anna Pivoras stated that her husband could help as well. He previously created a mystery dinner that included mobsters and prohibition era elements.

Phase II Survey: No Updates

Leath Warehouse Update: Becky Tobin stated that she met with the Mayor and Gary Anderson who is working on cost estimates for the project. Ms. Tobin stated that once an appraisal is completed, the project can be presented to the City Council in June for permission to send out a RFP.

Maintenance Small Grant: No updates.

10 Year Plan: Becky Tobin stated that open house is Thursday, May 25, 2017 from 5pm-7pm at the Boone County Museum of History.

Anna Pivoras stated that the Museum will be set up for 100 people.

Gina DelRose stated that a notice was published in the Boone County Shopper and a flyer was posted on the community board at Countryside Pacemaker. A notice was sent to the Belvidere Area Chamber of Commerce as well to be distributed.

Becky Tobin stated that Gina DelRose and she will be presenting at the Rotary Club on Wednesday, May 24, 2017 and will be discussing the open house.

Expenditures: No updates

Friends of Preservation: Becky Tobin stated that a topic and presenter need to be determined. Ms. Tobin advised David Kummerow to meet with Gina DelRose to plan the next event.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Images of American Belvidere and Boone County**

Royalties: No updates

Book Sales: No updates

**DISCUSSION:**

**Underground Railroad in Boone County-** Becky Tobin stated that the City's intern has begun researching the topic.

**Prohibition Era-** Becky Tobin stated that the City's intern has begun researching the topic. Ms. Tobin stated that the Kishwaukee River used to be referred to as the Whiskey River because of the amount of smuggling that occurred.

David Kummerow stated that the theme of prohibition should be tied into the Mystery Dinner.

Lisa Irvine Kummerow stated that the theme could be tied into the Progressive Dinner as well. Houses could be transformed into speakeasies.

**Newsletter-** No updates

**COMMUNICATIONS/PLANNING REPORTS:**

**Staff Report:** David Kummerow stated that Lisa Irvine Kummerow and himself were contacted about the Post Office building. Mr. Kummerow stated that he thought the building could be renovated into office space that is rentable.

Lisa Irvine Kummerow stated that she thought it could be a single-user business and has reached out to contacts on the east coast.

Anna Pivoras questioned what the capacity would be if the mystery dinner was held there.

David Kummerow stated that parking would be the biggest problem but the same property owner owns the neighboring properties so parking can be spread out.

David Kummerow stated the basement was dry and in good condition.

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** June 27, 2017

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:11pm.

Recorded by

  
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Gina DelRose  
Community Development Planner