

**CITY OF BELVIDERE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES
October 25, 2016
5:30 pm
City Council Chambers**

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Becky Tobin, Chair
Kris Bryan, Vice Chair
Filitsa Platopoulos
David Kummerow
Lisa Irvine Kummerow
Anna Gill Pivoras

Staff Present:

Gina DelRose, Community Development Planner

Members Absent

Vacant

With a quorum present, Chair Becky Tobin called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm.

MINUTES: It was moved and seconded (Irvine Kummerow/Bryan) to approve the minutes from the September 27, 2016 meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Work Plan

2017 Awards Program: There were no new nominations.

Promotional /Fund Raising Events: Gina DelRose stated that she had heard that there would be an emphasis on window painting this year.

Kris Bryan stated that he talked to the Fire Chief and they are serving hot chocolate so they may not have any available firemen to judge the windows. Mr. Bryan stated that maybe an alderman could help judge.

Gina DelRose questioned if it would be too late to plan to have a Christmas walk amongst the historic homes.

Becky Tobin stated that she believed it is too late to organize such an event.

Kris Bryan suggested planning a spring garden walk.

Becky Tobin stated that May is Historic Preservation Month which why the awards ceremony is held in May. Ms. Tobin wondered if hosting two events in one month would be overwhelming.

Lisa Irvine Kummerow stated that the walk could conclude with the awards ceremony.

Becky Tobin stated that participating properties are needed.

Kris Bryan suggested a property on Macomb Street.

Becky Tobin suggested a property on South Main Street.

David Kummerow offered his house on Locust Street.

Gina DelRose suggested a house on West Hurlbut Street.

Becky Tobin suggested another house on West Hurlbut Street.

Kris Bryan stated that he will be offering pet pictures with Santa (at his store) from 4pm-8pm during Hometown Christmas.

Becky Tobin stated that there will be a concert held at the Apollo that night; Lee Gardner will be singing at the museum again.

Kris Bryan questioned where the activities that are usually held at the Apollo are going to take place.

Phase II Survey: Gina DelRose stated that the grant close out paperwork was almost complete. Ms. DelRose stated that in the proposal Heritage Works stated they would present the survey to the City Council; however the grant timeframe ended before they could do the presentation.

Becky Tobin stated that they should still be contacted about presenting the survey results to the City Council.

Becky Tobin stated that the grant was a 70/30 reimbursement grant.

Leath Warehouse Update: There are no updates at this time.

Maintenance Small Grant: Gina DelRose questioned when notices should be sent out.

Becky Tobin stated that notices are typically sent out after the new year and recipients are selected by the awards night in May.

10 Year Plan: Gina DelRose stated that she sent out Request For Proposals to 60 agencies. Ms. DelRose stated that she would keep the commission updated.

Expenditures: There are no updates at this time.

Neighbor's Night: David Kummerow questioned why it was not called Landmark Owners Night.

Gina DelRose stated that the event name kept changing in past minutes. She can send out the next set of notices with the correct name.

Gina DelRose stated that the invite list has grown to over 200 people. Ms. DelRose stated that Mayor Chamberlain and David Kummerow would be giving the presentations.

David Kummerow stated that the newsletter turned out great. Mr. Kummerow stated that he would handle the refreshments. In the future, he believes that members of the museum should be invited.

Anna Pivoras questioned why the RSVPs were so low.

Becky Tobin stated that Friday nights may be a bad time for residents.

David Kummerow stated that staff could follow up with attendees about a new night.

Anna Pivoras stated that 6pm may not be the best time.

Becky Tobin agreed and suggested having the event at 6:30pm or 7pm instead.

Anna Pivoras stated that she could send invitations out to those on the museum's email list.

Lisa Kummerow stated that the older generation may not use email.

Gina DelRose questioned if the commission wanted to invite only historic land owners or everyone since the museum list does not include historic land owners only.

David Kummerow stated that everyone should be invited.

Becky Tobin agreed; those who own historic properties can be encouraged to landmark them.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Images of American Belvidere and Boone County

Royalties: No updates

Book Sales: No updates

DISCUSSION:

Underground Railroad in Boone County- No updates

Prohibition Era- No updates

Property Maintenance Assistance Program- Gina DelRose stated that she was informed that the commission was not awarded the grant. Ms. DelRose stated that she would follow up with the foundation to see what they can do to improve their chances next year. Ms. DelRose stated that she believes part of the problem was not having any estimates included in the grant paperwork. A homeowner tried to obtain estimates but the company never came out to inspect the property.

Becky Tobin stated that the commission can look into grant monies available for blighted properties.

Gina DelRose wondered if there were grants available for asbestos abatement.

Vacant Seat- Alexandra Omiotek, historic land owner and Belvidere resident was present and offered to fill the vacancy.

The commission welcomed Alexandra and gave a quick recap of commissioner duties.

COMMUNICATIONS/PLANNING REPORTS:

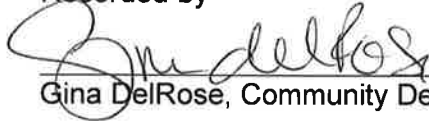
Staff Report: Gina DelRose stated that she attended to a presentation at the Ida Public Library. There was a local author talking about unsolved crimes and ghost stories in the Rockford area. Ms. DelRose stated that she was a good presenter and it would be interesting to see how many Belvidere stories she has and whether or not she could present at a Landmark Owners Night.

David Kummerow requested an update of development projects in Belvidere. Mr. Kummerow stated that the park district is moving along with the property adjacent to his house.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Gina DelRose stated that the next meeting is November 22, 2016, the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. Ms. DelRose questioned if there would be a quorum.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Recorded by



Gina DelRose, Community Development Planner