

**CITY OF BELVIDERE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES
November 22, 2016
5:30 pm
City Council Chambers**

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Becky Tobin, Chair
Kris Bryan, Vice Chair
David Kummerow
Anna Gill Pivoras
Sandie Omiotek

Staff Present:

Gina DelRose, Community Development Planner

Members Absent

Filitsa Platopoulos
Lisa Irvine Kummerow

With a quorum present, Chair Becky Tobin called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm.

MINUTES: It was moved and seconded (Bryan/Kummerow) to approve the minutes from the October 25, 2016 meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Work Plan

2017 Awards Program: There were no new nominations. The commission gave a brief recap of the awards program from previous years.

Promotional /Fund Raising Events: Becky Tobin stated that the commission should start working on the spring tour dates, list of participants, etc.

David Kummerow questioned what houses would be participating.

Kris Bryan questioned if the tour was only houses, gardens or both.

Gina DelRose stated that hosting a mystery dinner could be a fundraiser.

David Kummerow asked if the dinner would be at the Boone County Historical Museum or the Wings and Wheels Museum.

Becky Tobin stated that the house tour could be in the spring and the mystery dinner in the fall.

Anna Pivoras suggested having the dinner at the old Post Office.

David Kummerow questioned if the dinner could be held in the spring.

Kris Bryan agreed and stated that the tour could be in the summer.

Becky Tobin stated that the awards program is in May.

Anna Pivoras stated that she would prefer to have an interactive murder mystery dinner.

Gina DelRose stated the commission could host a paint and wine party.

Becky Tobin questioned who is participating in Hometown Christmas at the museum.

Gina DelRose stated that Filitsa Platopoulos intends to participate.

Becky Tobin stated that she would be there for the first part of the night.

David Kummerow stated that he would be there.

Anna Pivoras stated that she will be hosting museum activities.

Gina DelRose stated that she will be serving hot chocolate at the fire station.

Sandie Omiotek stated that she will participate.

Anny Pivoras requested that books be made available for purchase.

Gina DelRose stated that she will provide books and handouts.

Phase II Survey: Gina DelRose stated that she contacted Heritage Works about presenting to the City Council and they have yet to respond.

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

Maintenance Small Grant: There are no updates at this time.

10 Year Plan: Gina DelRose stated that the Lakota Group was the only response received. Their work appears to be very hands on. Ms. DelRose stated that she called Rock Island for a reference check and they had very high praises for the company.

It was moved and seconded (Kummerow/Bryan) to award the 10-Year Plan contract in an amount not to exceed \$30,000 to the Lakota Group. Motion carried unanimously.

Expenditures: There are no updates at this time.

Neighbor's Night: David Kummerow stated that the meetings are definitely growing. Mr. Kummerow asked what the meeting is to the commission; is it an offshoot of the commission? Mr. Kummerow stated that the commission is responsible for the event and Anna Pivoras is very involved. Mr. Kummerow stated that he would like to expand the invitation list to museum members and members of the Parks and Conservation Foundation.

David Kummerow stated that part of the meeting's agenda should be an update on Belvidere's happenings. Mr. Kummerow stated that restoration presenters should be contacted but ultimately it appears the people want to talk and exchange stories and ideas.

David Kummerow stated that fundraising is an issue because there is no audience to target. Mr. Kummerow stated that the commission is building an audience through the meetings. Mr. Kummerow stated that the meetings have brought in the support of prominent residents.

David Kummerow questioned if the meetings should be held every other month. In the interim months should residents open their homes to show projects? Mr. Kummerow stated that everyone likes ghost stories and there should be a meeting focused around that. Mr. Kummerow questioned whether refreshments should be offered.

Anna Pivoras stated that every other month is good. The museum schedule can be overwhelming because so many activities are taking place.

Anna Pivoras stated that there is an Illinois Speaks grant which begins as a \$250.00 micro grant that anyone can apply for. The grant is for fostering public discussion groups in communities. Those groups that are awarded the micro grant are eligible to apply for a \$1,000.00 grant to fund speakers, refreshments. Ms. Pivoras stated that grants must be applied for 60-90 days prior to an event. Ms. Pivoras stated that she would be happy to apply on behalf of the commission.

The commission agreed that Anna Pivoras should apply for the micro grant.

David Kummerow stated that the commission has a successful track record already.

Becky Tobin questioned if the meetings should be held on different nights.

David Kummerow stated that any night will work; the commission just needs a focused group of participants. Mr. Kummerow stated that fundraisers can be mentioned at the meetings.

Anna Pivoras questioned if there was a waiver for alcohol and whether the commission has one.

David Kummerow stated the Sheri Casey can cater the event.

Becky Tobin stated that the City will not pay for alcohol but a cash bar may work.

Anna Pivoras stated that she believes calling the meeting "Neighbors Night" limits those that feel they can participate.

Kris Bryan stated that it could be called "History Night".

David Kummerow stated that the name has to have direction towards preservation. He suggested calling the meeting "Friends of Preservation".

Becky Tobin suggested "Preservation Club".

Kris Bryan suggested "History Club".

David Kummerow stated that those who attend always have questions about preserving their homes; proper ways to fix plaster, trim, etc. Mr. Kummerow suggested calling the meeting "Belvidere Preservation Group".

Becky Tobin stated that she does not want to limit participants to only Belvidere. Ms. Tobin suggested using "Boone County" instead of "Belvidere".

Kris Bryan suggested "Boone County Preservation Connection".

Becky Tobin suggested "Preservation Network".

David Kummerow stated that the suggestions were all good and requested that Gina DelRose place them in the next newsletter and let the residents decide the name.

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- No updates

COMMUNICATIONS/PLANNING REPORTS:

Staff Report: Gina DelRose stated that she was contacted by the Boone County Journal regarding Sandie Omiotek's appointment. Ms. DelRose believed they interviewed Ms. Omiotek as well.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Becky Tobin questioned if the December meeting should be cancelled because of its proximity to Christmas. Ms. Tobin stated that the December meeting is usually cancelled.

David Kummerow stated that people can communicate via e-mail.

Gina DelRose stated that she is in contact with the State of Illinois regarding their presentation which may be held in January.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 pm.

Recorded by



Gina DelRose, Community Development Planner