CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Elizabeth Flowers, Kristine Heiman (Chairman), Sarah Herbik, Melissa Maye, and Jeff Wehrli (Vice-Chairman)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of Minutes of April 15, 2019 Meeting (Pages 2-3)

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

NEW BUSINESS:
1. Review and Recommendation on Article IV of the Historic Preservation Ordinance-Alteration, Construction, Demolition and Maintenance (Pages 4-15)

OLD BUSINESS:
2. Discussion of Social Media Campaign

CORRESPONDENCE:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

ADJOURNMENT: Next Meeting-June 17, 2019

If special accommodations or arrangements are needed to attend this County meeting, please contact the Administration Office at 630-553-4171, a minimum of 24-hours prior to the meeting time.
CALL TO ORDER
Chairwoman Kristine Heiman called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

ROLL CALL
Present: Kristine Heiman, Melissa Maye, and Jeff Wehrli
Absent: Elizabeth Flowers and Sarah Herbik
Also present: Matt Asselmeier, Senior Planner, and Ruth Ann Sikes, Part-Time Office Assistant (Zoning)
In the Audience: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Member Maye made a motion, seconded by Member Wehrli, to approve the agenda as presented. With a voice vote of three (3) ayes, the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Member Wehrli made a motion, seconded by Member Maye, to approve the minutes from the March 18, 2019, meeting. With a voice vote of three (3) ayes, the motion carried unanimously.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT
None

PUBLIC COMMENT
None

NEW BUSINESS
Approval of an Invoice from Leo’s Trophies, Gifts and Engraving in an Amount Not to Exceed $148.00 for a Plaque for the Historic Preservation Award Winner
Mr. Asselmeier presented the invoice.

Member Wehrli asked about the size. Mr. Asselmeier replied he was not sure how big the sign was. It goes on a pole outside.

Member Maye made a motion, seconded by Member Wehrli, to approve the invoice as presented.

Ayes (3): Heiman, Maye, and Wehrli
Nays (0): None
Abstain (0): None
Absent (2): Flowers and Herbik

The motion carried.

Mr. Asselmeier said it will be presented at the Board Meeting on May 21st and May 7th the County Board would declare May Historic Preservation month.
Review and Recommendation on Article III - Designation of Landmarks and Historic Districts Section of the Historic Preservation Ordinance

Chairwoman Heiman stated they had approved the previous section at last month’s meeting. Commissioners reviewed the article.

Member Maye noted that if the person who was applying is not the current owner, the current owner must be notified.

Discussion occurred regarding State law.

The consensus of the Commission was to change the paragraph in Section 8 “vote of a super majority” to “for the purposes of this section a super majority shall be defined as not less than seven (7) County Board members.” Member Wehrli suggested to add that the Historic District and Landmark maps can be found on the County website as well as in the Planning, Building and Zoning Office.

The Commission will move on to Article IV at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion of Social Media Campaign

The Committee decided to keep this on the agenda for next month. Member Wehrli asked if Chairwoman Heiman had talked to Member Herbik. She replied that she had not received a response. Mr. Asselmeier was asked to try to contact Member Herbik.

Discussion of Oswego Historic Stone House Tour

Mr. Asselmeier stated he had tried to contact Natalie Zine in Oswego and she is out of town. According to the Little White Shoolhouse the tour is scheduled for June 1st. The tour is a walking tour and it is from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. It was discussed to have brochures out at Mr. Brodemus’ home that is on the tour and thank him for letting us do so. Mr. Asselmeier will forward the brochure to members to review and make any changes.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Member Maye asked about the meeting that was held in February at LaSalle Manor. Chairwoman Heiman gave a summary of what happened and said it was something that the Commission needs to continue doing. Member Wehrli suggested going to one of the other groups’ meetings and see what activities are occurring.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Wehrli made a motion, seconded by Member Maye, to adjourn. With a voice vote of three (3) ayes, the motion carried. The Historic Preservation Commission adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ruth Ann Sikes
Part-Time Office Assistant (Zoning)
ARTICLE IV
ALTERATION, CONSTRUCTION, DEMOLITION, AND MAINTENANCE

1. SCOPE
Work on property and improvements so designated pursuant to this ordinance shall be regulated as follows:

A) Landmarks: No significant alterations, exterior construction or exterior demolition or interior alteration which may affect the exterior appearance may be performed on property and structures which have been designated under this ordinance as landmarks, except as shall be approved by a Certificate of Appropriateness.

B) Historic districts: No significant alterations, exterior construction or exterior demolition or interior alteration which may affect the exterior appearance may be performed on property and structures located within an area which is designated under this ordinance as a historic district, except as shall be approved by a Certificate of Appropriateness.

2. CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

A) A Certificate of Appropriateness from the Preservation Commission established pursuant to this Ordinance shall be required before any significant alteration, construction, demolition or removal that affects pending or designated landmarks or historic districts is undertaken. Such a certificate is required for all such actions from the date a nomination form is submitted to the Preservation Commission.

B) Applications for Certificates of Appropriateness.

i) Every application submitted to the Kendall County Planning, Building & Zoning Department for a permit wherein the applicant represents and/or delineates plans to commence any action as immediately described above in subsection (A) affecting any such property, improvements or areas therein described, shall be forwarded by the Director of Planning, Building and Zoning to a representative or representatives of the Preservation Commission, within five (5) business days following the receipt of said application by the Planning, Building & Zoning Department.

The Planning, Building & Zoning Department shall not issue the building or demolition permit until a Certificate of Appropriateness has been issued by the Preservation Commission. Any applicant may request a meeting with the Preservation Commission before the application is sent by the Director of Planning, Building and Zoning to the Preservation Commission or during the review of the application.

ii) Application for review of construction, alteration, demolition, or removal not requiring a building permit for which a Certificate of Appropriateness is required shall be made on a form prepared by the Preservation Commission and available at...
the office of Kendall County Planning, Building & Zoning Department. The Preservation Commission may schedule, provide notice and conduct a public hearing concerning the application in the manner previously described in Article III, Section 6 and 7.

iii) If a public hearing is not scheduled, the Commission may consider the completed application at its next regular meeting and may grant a Certificate of Appropriateness at that time. The Commission may further designate support staff to be responsible for reviewing routine applications for Certificates of Appropriateness when the proposed work is clearly appropriate and in accordance with the criteria set forth in Article IV, Sections 2(c) and (d) below, and the purposes of this Ordinance.

iv) The Commission may seek technical advice from outside its members on any application for a Certificate of Appropriateness. The applicant and each commissioner shall receive a copy of the consultant's written opinion at least seven (7) days before a determination is to be made on the application. The costs for this technical advice will be paid by petitioner unless included as part of the annual approved budget for the Commission.

v) The Commission shall act promptly and in a reasonable manner in its judgment of plans for new construction or for alteration, removal, or demolition of structures in historic districts that have little historic value, except where such construction, alteration, removal, or demolition would seriously impair the historic or architectural value of surrounding structures or the surrounding area.

C) Design Guidelines. The Commission shall consider the following factors in reviewing applications for Certificates of Appropriateness:

i) Height: The height of any proposed alteration or construction should be compatible with the style and character of the landmark and with surrounding structures in a historic district.

ii) Proportions of Windows and Doors: The proportions and relationships between doors and windows should be compatible with the architectural style and character of the landmark and with surrounding structures within a historic district.

iii) Relationship of Building Masses and Spaces: The relationship of a structure within a historic district to open space between it and adjoining structures should be compatible or similar to relationships commonly found between similar structures in the district.

iv) Roof Shape: The design of the roof should be compatible with the architectural style and character of the landmark and surrounding structures which are similar in design in a historic district.
v) *Landscaping:* Landscaping should be compatible with the architectural character and appearance of the landmark and of surrounding structures and landscapes in historic districts.

vi) *Scale:* The scale of the structure after alteration, construction, or partial demolition should be compatible with its architectural style and character and with surrounding structures in a historic district.

vii) *Directional Expression:* Facades in historic districts should blend with other structures with regard to directional expression. Structures in a historic district should be compatible with the dominant horizontal or vertical expression of surrounding structures or of its stylistic design. The directional expression of a landmark after any alteration, construction, or partial demolition should be compatible with its original architectural style and character.

viii) *Architectural Details:* Architectural details, including materials and textures, should be treated so as to make a landmark compatible with its original architectural style or character.

D) Standards for Review. The Commission, in considering the appropriateness of any alteration, demolition, new construction, or removal to any property or structures designated or pending designation as a landmark, or any area designated or pending designation as a historic district, shall be guided by the following general standards and any design guidelines in the ordinance designating the landmark or historic district as well as conformance to applicable zoning classification, height, and area limitation:

i) Every reasonable effort shall be made to provide a compatible use for a property that requires minimal alteration of the building, structure, or site and its environment, or to use a property for its originally intended purpose.

ii) The distinguishing original qualities or character of a building, structure, site, and its environment shall not be destroyed. The removal or alteration of any historic material or distinctive architectural feature should be avoided whenever possible.

iii) All buildings, structures, and sites shall be recognized as products of their time. Alterations that have no historical basis or that seek to create an earlier/later appearance shall be discouraged.

iv) Changes that may have taken place in the course of time are evidence of the history and development of a building, structure, or site and its environment. These changes may have acquired significance in their own right, and this significance shall be recognized and respected.

v) Distinctive stylistic features or examples of skilled craftsmanship that characterize a building, structure, or site shall be treated with sensitivity.
vi) Deteriorated architectural features shall be repaired rather than replaced, wherever possible. In the event replacement is necessary, the new material should match the material being replaced in composition, design, color, texture, and other visual qualities. Repair or replacement of missing architectural features should be based on accurate duplication of features substantiated by historic, physical, or pictorial evidence, rather than on conjectural designs or the availability of different architectural elements from other buildings or structures.

vii) The surface cleaning of structures shall be undertaken with the utmost care and consideration. Sandblasting and other cleaning methods that will damage the historic building materials shall not be undertaken.

viii) Every reasonable effort shall be made to protect and preserve archaeological resources affected by or adjacent to any project.

ix) Contemporary design for alterations and additions to existing properties shall not be discouraged when such alterations and additions do not destroy significant historical, architectural, or cultural material, and such design is compatible with the size, scale, color, material, and character of the property, neighborhood, or environment.

x) Wherever possible, new additions or alterations to structures should be done in such a manner that if such additions or alterations were to be removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the structure would not be impaired.

E) Determination by Preservation Commission. Within fifteen (15) business days after support staff review, or from the date of the regular meeting, or from the close of a public hearing concerning an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness, or within such further time as the applicant for said certificate (and/or permit) approves in writing, the Commission shall determine whether:

i) The proposed construction, alteration, demolition, removal or other modification will be appropriate to the preservation of the particular landmark or historic district and a Certificate of Appropriateness may be issued; or

ii) Such proposed modification is inappropriate to the preservation of the particular landmark or historic district and a Certificate of Appropriateness may be denied.

Written notice of the approval or denial of the application for a Certificate of Appropriateness shall be provided the applicant, sent by certified mail with return receipt requested, and to the Kendall County Planning, Building & Zoning Department within seven (7) days (Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays excluded) following the determination and shall be accompanied by a Certificate of Appropriateness in the case of an approval.
F) Denial of Certificate of Appropriateness. A denial of a Certificate of Appropriateness shall be accompanied by a statement of the reasons for the denial. The Preservation Commission shall make recommendations to the applicant concerning changes, if any, in the proposed action that would cause the Preservation Commission to reconsider its denial and shall confer with the applicant and attempt to resolve as quickly as possible the difference(s) between the applicant and the Commission. The applicant may resubmit an amended application or reapply for a building or demolition permit that takes into consideration the recommendations of the Preservation Commission.

G) Decision Binding on Planning, Building & Zoning Department. The Director of the Kendall County Planning, Building & Zoning Department shall be bound by the determination of the Commission and approve, if in conformance with other provisions of the Building Code, or disapprove any application for the proposed construction, alteration, removal of an exterior architectural feature, or demolition of any building or structure in a historic district or any landmark in accordance with said determination.

H) Failure of Commission to Review Application in a Timely Manner. Failure of the Commission to act upon an application for Certificate of Appropriateness within ninety (90) days shall constitute approval and no other evidence shall be needed. This time limit may be waived only by mutual consent of the applicant and the Commission.

I) Demolitions. Pursuant to Article IV, Sections 2(c) and (d) above, the Preservation Commission may deny any application for a Certificate of Appropriateness where demolition is proposed upon a finding that such proposed action will adversely affect the historic, archeological, architectural, or scenic significance of a landmark or historic district. Upon receipt of an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness for demolition, the Preservation Commission shall as soon as possible make a determination, supported by written findings, whether one or more of the following criteria are met:

i) The structure or visual resource is of such interest or quality that it would reasonably meet national, state or local criteria for designation as an historic or architectural landmark.

ii) The structure or visual resource is of such unusual or uncommon design, texture or materials that it could not be reproduced, or could be reproduced only with great difficulty and expense.

iii) Retention of the structure or visual resource would aid substantially in preserving and protecting another structure or visual resource which meets criteria (i) or (ii) hereinabove.

Where the Preservation Commission determines that one or more of these criteria are met, no Certificate of Appropriateness shall be issued and the application shall be denied.

In cases of historic districts or if structures remain at a landmark, if a demolition
permit is issued, the Preservation Commission shall require the applicant to submit for review and consideration post-demolition plans which shall include drawings and sketches with sufficient detail to show, as far as they relate to exterior appearance, the architectural design of any and all improvements incorporated in such plans.

J) Compliance with Certificate. A Certificate of Appropriateness will become void if:

i) If there is any change in the scope of work pursuant to the approved application subsequent to the issuance of the Certificate; or

ii) If twelve (12) months have elapsed after issuance of the Certificate and no building permit has been issued.

K) Appeals. A denial of a Certificate of Appropriateness is an administrative decision as defined in Section 3-101 of the Illinois Administrative Review Law, and it shall be subject to judicial review pursuant to provisions of said Administrative Review Law and all amendments and modifications thereof, and the rules adopted thereto.

Sec. 5-30018. Certificate of appropriateness. A certificate of appropriateness from a preservation commission established pursuant to this Division shall be required before any significant alteration, construction, demolition or removal that affects pending or designated landmarks and preservation districts is undertaken. Such a certificate is required for all such actions from the date a nomination in proper form for designation is submitted to the preservation commission. The preservation ordinance enacted by the county board shall give the preservation commission one or the other of the following powers:

(1) final authority to deny a certificate of appropriateness upon a finding that the proposed action will adversely affect the historic, archaeological, architectural, or scenic significance of a landmark or preservation district; or (2) authority to delay the issuance of a certificate of appropriateness for a reasonable period of time while negotiations between the property owner and the preservation commission are undertaken to lessen the effect of the proposed action on the historic, archaeological, architectural, or scenic significance of the landmark or preservation district. The preservation commission may hold a public hearing on an application for a certificate of appropriateness in the same manner as provided in Section 5-30014, and conduct the hearing on appropriateness in the same manner as provided in Section 5-30015. (Source: P.A. 86-962.)

(55 ILCS 5/5-30014) (from Ch. 34, par. 5-30014)
Sec. 5-30014. Nomination of landmarks and preservation districts. The preservation commission or any person may propose landmarks of preservation districts for designation by the county board by filing a nomination with the preservation commission and it shall contain all information required by the ordinance establishing a county preservation commission. The preservation commission shall schedule a hearing on the nomination within 60 days of its receipt. Notice of the public hearing shall be published at least 15 days in advance thereof in a newspaper of general circulation in the county. Individual notice including a copy of the nomination form
shall be given by mail to all owners of record of property nominated as a landmark. Every effort shall be made to give notice to owners of record of property within a preservation district and to owners of property adjacent and immediately surrounding a landmark or preservation district affected by the process for the application for, and review of, a certificate of appropriateness. The newspaper and any individual or general notice shall state the date, time, place, and purpose of the public hearing.
(Source: P.A. 86-962.)

(55 ILCS 5/5-30015) (from Ch. 34, par. 5-30015)
Sec. 5-30015. Conduct of public hearing. Oral or written testimony shall be taken at the public hearing from any person concerning the nomination. The preservation commission may solicit expert testimony or present its own evidence regarding the historic, archaeological, architectural, or scenic significance of a proposed landmark or of any property within a proposed preservation district. The owner of any proposed landmark or of any property within a proposed preservation district shall be allowed reasonable opportunity to present evidence regarding historic, archaeological, architectural or scenic significance and shall be afforded the right of representation by counsel and reasonable opportunity to cross examine expert witnesses. The hearing shall be closed upon completion of testimony.
(Source: P.A. 86-962.)

(55 ILCS 5/5-30022) (from Ch. 34, par. 5-30022)
Sec. 5-30022. Appeals. The final denial of a certificate of appropriateness or a certificate of economic hardship by a preservation commission is an administrative decision as defined in Section 3-101 of the Administrative Review Law, and it shall be subject to judicial review pursuant to provisions of said Administrative Review Law and all amendments and modifications thereof, and the rules adopted thereto.
(Source: P.A. 86-962.)

(55 ILCS 5/5-30010) (from Ch. 34, par. 5-30010)
Sec. 5-30010. Minimum content of preservation ordinance. Every preservation ordinance proposed by a preservation study committee and enacted by a county board pursuant to this Division is required, at a minimum, to contain the following elements:
(1) Establishment of a preservation commission;
(2) Standards or criteria for determining the historic archaeological, architectural, or scenic significance of buildings, structures, objects, areas, sites or landscapes; and procedures for recommending designation by ordinance of landmarks or preservation districts;
(3) Definitions of important words and phrases used in the ordinance;
(4) Procedures for the appointment of officers and the succession of preservation commission members;
(5) Procedures for review by the preservation commission of proposed zoning amendments, variations and special use applications submitted to a county regional planning
commission or board of appeals;
(6) Procedures and general criteria for review by the preservation commission of significant alteration, construction, demolition and removal that affects pending and designated landmarks and preservation districts and for the issuance of certificates of appropriateness;
(7) Procedures for establishing guidelines interpreting the general criteria for review of actions required by paragraph (6) above as those criteria relate to specific designated landmarks or categories of designated landmarks, and to designated preservation districts;
(8) Procedures and standards for a property owner to demonstrate the economic hardship from the denial of an application for an alteration, construction, demolition or removal, and for lessening the effect of any denial determined by a preservation commission or a county board to deny a property owner all reasonable use of, or a return on, a landmark or property within a preservation district;
(9) Fees for the filing of any nomination or application and penalties for the violation of any provisions of the preservation ordinance.

3. ECONOMIC HARDSHIP
A) The Preservation Commission may issue a Certificate of Economic Hardship upon determination that the failure to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness has denied, or will deny the owner of a landmark or of a property within a historic district all reasonable use of, or return on, the property. Application for a Certificate of Economic Hardship shall be made on a form and in the manner as prescribed by the Preservation Commission. The Preservation Commission may schedule a public hearing concerning the application and provide notice in the same manner as prescribed in Article III, Section 6, of this Ordinance and conduct the hearing in the same manner as prescribed in Article III, Section 7, of this Ordinance.

B) The Preservation Commission may solicit expert testimony and the applicant for a Certificate of Economic Hardship shall submit all of the following information if requested by the Planning, Building and Zoning Department or the Preservation Commission in order to assist the Preservation Commission in its determination on the application:

i) An estimate of the cost of the proposed construction, alteration, demolition, or removal, and an estimate of any additional cost that would be incurred to comply with the recommendations of the Preservation Commission for changes necessary for the issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness;

ii) A report from a licensed engineer or architect with experience in rehabilitation as to the structural soundness of any structures on the property and their suitability for rehabilitation;

iii) Estimated market value of the property in its current condition; after completion
of the proposed construction, alteration, demolition, or removal; after any changes recommended by the Preservation Commission; and, in the case of a proposed demolition, after renovation of the existing property for continued use;

iv) In the case of a proposed demolition, an estimate from a person or entity experienced in rehabilitation as to the economic feasibility of rehabilitation or reuse of the existing structure on the property;

v) Amount paid for the property, the date of purchase, and the party from whom purchased, including a description of the relationship, of any, between the owner of record or applicant and the person from whom the property was purchased, and any terms of financing between the seller and buyer;

vi) If the property is income-producing, the annual gross income from the property for the previous two (2) years; itemized operating and maintenance expenses for the previous two (2) years; and depreciation deduction and annual cash flow before and after debt service, if any, during the same period;

vii) Remaining balance on any mortgage or other financing secured by the property and annual debt service, if any, for the previous two (2) years;

viii) Any listing of the property for sale or rent, price asked and offers received, if any, within the previous two (2) years;

ix) Assessed value of the property according to the two (2) most recent assessments;

x) Real estate taxes for the previous two (2) years;

xi) Form of ownership or operation of the property, whether sole proprietorship, for profit or not-for-profit corporation, limited partnership, joint venture, or other.

xii) Any other information, including the income tax bracket of the owner, applicant, or principal investors in the property considered necessary by the Preservation Commission to make a determination as to whether the property does yield or may yield a reasonable return to the owners.

C) Determination of Economic Hardship. Within sixty (60) days from receiving a request for a Certificate of Economic Hardship, the Commission, upon a determination that the denial of a Certificate of Appropriateness has denied, or will deny the owner of a landmark or of a property within a historic district all reasonable use of or return on the property, may undertake one of the following actions:

i) Offer the owner of the property reasonable financing, tax or other incentives sufficient to allow a reasonable use of, or return on, the property; or

ii) Offer to purchase the property at a reasonable price or institute eminent
iii) Issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for the proposed construction, alteration, demolition or removal.

Written notice of the determination shall be provided in the same manner as required by Article IV, Section 2(e) of this Ordinance. This time limit may be waived only by mutual consent of the applicant and the Commission.

C) Appeals. A denial of a Certificate of Economic Hardship is an administrative decision as defined in Section 3-101 of the Illinois Administrative Review Law, and it shall be subject to judicial review pursuant to provisions of said law and all amendments and modifications thereof, and the rules adopted thereto.
years;

(7) Any consideration by the owner as to profitable adaptive uses for the property;

(8) If the property is income-producing, the annual gross income from the property for the previous two years, itemized operating and maintenance expenses for the previous two years, depreciation deductions and annual cash flow before and after debt service, if any, during the same period;

(9) Form of ownership or operation of the property, whether sole proprietorship, for-profit or not-for-profit corporation, limited partnership, joint venture, or other;

(10) Any other information, including the income tax bracket of the owner, applicant, or principal investors in the property, necessary to a determination as to whether the property can be reasonably used or yield a reasonable return to present or future owners.

(Source: P.A. 86-962.)

(55 ILCS 5/5-30021) (from Ch. 34, par. 5-30021)
Sec. 5-30021. Determination of economic hardship. The preservation commission, upon a determination after review of all evidence and information that the denial of a certificate of appropriateness has denied, or will deny the owner of a landmark or of a property within a preservation district of all reasonable use of, or return on, the property, shall undertake one or the other of the following actions:

(1) offer the owner of the property reasonable financing, tax or other incentives sufficient to allow a reasonable use of, or return on, the property:

(2) offer to purchase the property at a reasonable price or institute eminent domain proceedings pursuant to the Eminent Domain Act; or

(3) issue a certificate of appropriateness for the proposed construction, alteration, demolition or removal.

(Source: P.A. 94-1055, eff. 1-1-07.)

(55 ILCS 5/5-30022) (from Ch. 34, par. 5-30022)
Sec. 5-30022. Appeals. The final denial of a certificate of appropriateness or a certificate of economic hardship by a preservation commission is an administrative decision as defined in Section 3-101 of the Administrative Review Law, and it shall be subject to judicial review pursuant to provisions of said Administrative Review Law and all amendments and modifications thereof, and the rules adopted thereto.

(Source: P.A. 86-962.)

4. MAINTENANCE OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
Nothing in this Article shall be construed to prevent the ordinary maintenance of any exterior elements of a property or structures designated or nominated as a landmark or located within a designated or nominated historic district.

5. PUBLIC SAFETY EXCLUSION
None of the provisions of this ordinance shall be construed to prevent any measures of construction, alteration, or demolition necessary to correct or abate the unsafe or dangerous
condition of any structure, other feature or part thereof, where such condition has been declared unsafe or dangerous by the Director, Kendall County Planning, Building & Zoning Department, the Kendall County Health Department or any Fire Protection District and where the proposed measures have been declared necessary, by such department or departments to correct the said condition; provided, however, that only such work as is reasonably necessary to correct the unsafe or dangerous condition may be performed pursuant to this Section.

In the event any structure or other feature shall be damaged by fire or other calamity, or by Act of Nature or by the public enemy, to such an extent that, in the opinion of the aforesaid department or departments, it cannot reasonably be repaired and restored, it may be removed in conformity with normal permit procedures and applicable laws.

6. DEMOLITION BY NEGLECT

It is the intent of this section to preserve from deliberate or inadvertent neglect the features of landmarks and contributing buildings and structures within designated historic districts.

Periodically, the Commission shall, in conjunction with its ongoing survey operations, survey the exterior of each designated landmark and each property within a historic district to ensure that the property is not suffering from demolition by neglect, as defined in the ordinance. The Commission's Secretary shall document the performance of each annual neglect survey.

Any owner who fails to maintain their building or structure in compliance with this section shall be subject to remedial procedures. Upon a finding by the Commission that a historic landmark or a contributing building or structure within a historic district is threatened by demolition by neglect, the Commission shall:

(a) Notify the County Board so that they or the appropriate county agency will require the owner to repair all conditions contributing to demolition by neglect.

(b) If the owner does not make repairs within a reasonable period of time the County Board or their agents may make such repairs as are necessary to prevent demolition by neglect. The costs of such work shall be charged to the owner, and may be levied as a special assessment or lien against the property.
Historic Stone House Walking Tours

May is National Historic Preservation Month! To celebrate, join Oswego’s Historic Preservation Commission on an educational walking tour of the village’s historic stone houses to celebrate historic preservation in Oswego.

Many of Oswego’s stone houses are some of the oldest structures found in the village, most of them built between the 1840s and the 1860s, each with its own unique architectural style and history.

The Historic Stone House Walking Tour will provide a unique opportunity to learn about these historic structures through a brief video screening at the Little White School Museum followed by a guided walking tour of five nearby stone houses and including opportunities to enter a few of the homes and listen to stories and lessons from the property owners themselves.

This tour is perfect for Oswego residents that currently live in historic homes and are interested in preservation and restoration, history and architecture enthusiasts, and preservation students and professionals.

Register online at www.eventbrite.com/e/historic-stone-house-walking-tour-tickets-60075843465.

This event is free but registration is required and space is very limited. Given the historic nature of the homes, not all homes on the tour will be ADA accessible. Walking is required to get to the tours sites, and participants will be asked to sign a waiver in order to participate. Participants under 18 are invited to attend, however, a parent or guardian must sign a waiver and is responsible for the participant. Parking is available at the Little White School Museum.

Questions? Contact Natalie Zine, Community Development Planner, at 630-551-2332 or nzine@oswegoil.org.

View All News & Announcements