

**KENDALL COUNTY**  
**Historic Preservation Commission**  
*Kendall County Office Building*  
*Rooms 209 & 210*  
*111 W. Fox Street, Yorkville, Illinois*  
**6:30 p.m.**  
**July 15, 2019**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairwoman Kristine Heiman called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Kristine Heiman (Chairwoman), Melissa Maye, and Jeff Wehrli (Vice-Chairman)

Absent: Elizabeth Flowers and Sarah Herbik

Also present: Matt Asselmeier, Senior Planner and Al Johnson

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Member Wehrli made a motion, seconded by Member Maye 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 June 17, 2019, special meeting. With a voice vote of three (3) ayes, the motion carried unanimously.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Al Johnson expressed concerns about mandatory landmarking. He believes that taxing older buildings is an incentive to destroy potential historic structures. The dedication on taxes for historical easements is not honored by the IRS in areas where landmarking is involuntary. He does not believe mandatory landmarking is required for receiving State grants. He thought landmarking devalues a property. He talked about the stone houses along Sandy Bluff Road and the possibility of using volunteers to help repair one (1) of the houses. He suggested that the County Board could offer a tax break for owners of historic buildings with financial difficulties. He asked about the list of historic structures; the list has been created. He suggested doing house walks. Chairwoman Heiman discussed the historic preservation awards.

**NEW BUSINESS**

***Nomination of Officers***

Member Maye, seconded by Chairwoman Heiman, nominated Jeff Wehrli to the position of Chairman.

Member Wehrli, seconded by Chairwoman Heiman, nominated Melissa Maye to the position of Vice-Chairman.

Member Maye, seconded by Chairwoman Heiman, nominated Elizabeth Flowers to the position of Secretary.

The votes on the nominations will occur at the August meeting.

***Approval of Authorizing the Chairwoman of the Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission to Send a Letter to Commissioner Herbig Regarding Commissioner Herbig's Interest in Continuing to Serve on the Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission***

Members reviewed the letter.

Member Wehrli made a motion, seconded by Member Maye, to authorize the Chairwoman to send the letter.

The votes were as follows:

Ayes (3): Heiman, Maye, and Wehrli

Nays (0): None

Abstain (0): None

Absent (2): Flowers and Herbig

The motion carried.

***Discussion of 2020 Meeting with Historic Preservation Organizations***

Discussion occurred regarding previous meetings.

The Little White Schoolhouse was suggested as a possible meeting location. One (1) of the older churches was also suggested. An older commercial building was also suggested as a possible meeting location. Members will consider possible locations. Mr. Asselmeier will bring the map of historic places to the next meeting.

Addressing the misconceptions of mandatory landmarking could be a topic for the meeting. Explaining the benefits of landmarking was also suggested as a topic of discussion. Lisa DiChiera was mentioned as possible speaker. The public should be invited to the meeting.

Members will discuss this topic again in August.

**OLD BUSINESS**

***Review of Comments from Illinois Historic Preservation Agency on Proposed Amendments to the Kendall County Historic Preservation Ordinance***

Mr. Asselmeier noted the proposal was sent to the State and the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency hopes to have someone in place later this summer to review the proposal.

***Update on Website Changes for Historic Preservation Awards***

Mr. Asselmeier stated that the pictures from this year's awards ceremony have been placed on the website.

***Discussion of Participating in Community Events***

Mr. Asselmeier read emails regarding events at Plano Public Library and Farnsworth House.

Mr. Asselmeier will contact the Plano Library to obtain the date for their event. The consensus was that the Commission should have a presence at this event.

Mr. Asselmeier will contact the Farnsworth House to see what the Commission's presence at the event would entail.

Discussion occurred regarding the lift at the Farnsworth House.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**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 7:05 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on August 19, 2019

Respectfully Submitted,  
Matthew H. Asselmeier, AICP  
Senior Planner