

KENDALL COUNTY
Historic Preservation Commission
Kendall County Office Building
County Board Room (Rooms 209 and 210)
111 W. Fox Street, Yorkville, Illinois
6:30 p.m.
June 21, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jeff Wehrli called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Eric Bernacki (Secretary), Kristine Heiman, and Jeff Wehrli (Chairman)

Absent: Elizabeth Flowers (Vice-Chairwoman)

Also Present: Matt Asselmeier (Senior Planner) and Ken Itle

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Member Heiman made a motion, seconded by Member Bernacki, to approve the agenda with an amendment of moving the first item of Old Business to the beginning of the meeting.

With a voice vote of three (3) ayes, the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion of Historic Survey Project; Commissioners Could Select Consultant and Township(s) of Study

Ken Itle of Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. (WJE) described his background and WJE's background. He also discussed his work in Will and Kankakee Counties. His research included information on buildings and prominent people of a given township.

Commissioner reviewed the sample survey information.

Chairman Wehrli asked about the scope of locating significant properties. Mr. Itle responded that he uses older aerial photography and older books of the County as a starting point. WJE used interns and volunteers to assist in the project. Local volunteers know the area and people and the volunteers' time can be used as part of the local match for certified local government grants.

Chairman Wehrli asked when Mr. Itle's involvement would start, specifically if he could help secure funding. Mr. Itle responded that he has helped with the grant writing.

Mr. Asselmeier asked if Mr. Itle had an opinion on which township to survey first. Mr. Itle responded that the answer depended on what the County wants. He discussed intergovernmental agreements with municipalities. Mr. Itle noted that the County could determine the scope of work at the start of the project. He would work with the County's GIS to integrate data into maps. Mr. Itle also discussed the importance of getting the community involved and generating excitement for future surveys.

Mr. Itle suggested the Commission discussed its priorities.

Commissioners discussed the annexation of historic structures into municipalities. Commissioners also discussed surveying rural townships compared to townships with more municipalities.

Commissioners discussed the financing of the project.

Chairman Wehrli asked about how long it takes to do this type of project. Mr. Itle responded generally one (1) year.

Chairman Wehrli asked about the fee structure. Mr. Itle said the price varies based on the number of structures visited.

Commissioners discussed which township to survey. Discussion occurred about utilizing volunteers in the Yorkville area, Kendall Township specifically. Commissioners will discuss which township to survey at a future meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Heiman made a motion, seconded by Member Bernacki, to approve the minutes from the May 17, 2021, meeting.

With a voice vote of three (3) ayes, the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Member Bernacki discussed his visit to Lyon Farm.

Member Heiman liked the type of structures, like churches and farmsteads, that were examined in the surveys.

Member Bernacki left at this time (7:05 p.m.) and the quorum was lost.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Wehrli said that he saw an article about an African American couple that moved to the area following the Civil War.

NEW BUSINESS

Report from Kristine Heiman Regarding May 28, 2021, Historic Preservation Training

Member Heiman presented information on historic preservation training, the roles of everyone involved, the tax programs, the process of submitting a property, HARGIS, and the standards for rehabilitation.

Discussion of Officers for 2021-2022

Mr. Asselmeier reported that the terms for the Vice-Chair and Secretary expire in July and nobody is term-limited at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion of Historic Survey Project; Commissioners Could Select Consultant and Township(s) of Study

Member Heiman suggested meeting with municipalities and selecting a township that generates excitement.

The project would be a professional service.

Discussion occurred regarding an intergovernmental agreement with Yorkville. The consensus of the group was to examine Kendall Township without Yorkville and survey Bristol Township with Yorkville.

Mr. Asselmeier will check with Mr. Itle regarding timelines.

Discussion of Cemeteries

There was no update on the cemeteries.

Discussion of Community Events

The consensus of the group was to have a public meeting in August or September at Lyon Farm to kick-off the survey project.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

The gathering concluded at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Matthew H. Asselmeier, AICP, CFM
Senior Planner