

KENDALL COUNTY
Historic Preservation Commission
Kendall County Office Building
County Board Room (Rooms 209 and 210)
111 W. Fox Street, Yorkville, Illinois
6:00 p.m.
December 20, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jeff Wehrli called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Eric Bernacki (Secretary), Elizabeth Flowers (Vice-Chairwoman), Kristine Heiman, Marty Shanahan, and Jeff Wehrli (Chairman)

Absent: None

Also Present: Matt Asselmeier (Senior Planner)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Member Flowers made a motion, seconded by Member Heiman, to approve the agenda as presented. With a voice vote of five (5) ayes, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Flowers made a motion, seconded by Member Shanahan, to approve the minutes from the November 15, 2021, meeting. With a voice vote of five (5) ayes, the motion carried.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Wehrli apologized for not reviewing the packet prior to the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Certified Local Government Annual Report

Commissioners reviewed the draft Annual Report.

Mr. Asselmeier reported that the State was not requiring proof of courses or trainings.

Commissioners had no concerns to report in relation to question 25.

Commissioners requested that "for structure survey of two townships" be added to question 26 regarding successes.

The State does not require official action by the County Board.

Without objection, the Commission approved the Annual Report with the addition to question 26 and no concerns related to question 25.

Discussion of a Contract Between Kendall County and Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. Regarding the Historic Structure Survey in Kendall and Bristol Townships

Commissioners reviewed the draft contract.

After review by the Commission, the proposal will be forwarded to the Planning, Building and Zoning Committee for referral to the State's Attorney's Office.

Member Bernacki expressed concerns that the exclusion of Helmar was not referenced.

Member Shanahan noted that the court of competent jurisdiction should be Kendall County courts.

Commissioners reiterated several times that the maximum cost of the project should be Forty-Two Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars (\$42,500). Volunteer hours would not be quantified and Staff's salary would not go towards the match.

Commissioners requested to know the number of volunteers needed for the project. Mr. Asselmeier will contact Ken Itle for an answer.

Mr. Asselmeier was unsure when the State's Attorney's Office would review the contract. The earliest the proposal would be sent to the State's Attorney was after the January Planning, Building and Zoning Committee meeting.

Discussion occurred about using the group meeting in February as a way to recruit volunteers.

Member Bernacki asked how many binders would be produced and the cost of those documents. Mr. Asselmeier will ask Ken Itle about the costs and number of these items.

No permits would be required to complete this project.

Mr. Asselmeier will check if the CD-Roms would be compatible with GIS.

Without objection, the consensus of the Commission was to forward the contract to the State's Attorney's Office.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion of Historic Preservation Awards

Commissioners reviewed the award application packet and press release.

Discussion occurred about nominating the old barn in Henneberry Woods. There were concerns about nominating a project that was not significantly completed.

The Yorkville Jail was suggested for possible award. Mr. Asselmeier will contact the owner of the Yorkville Jail.

Discussion occurred regarding nominating the Little White School Museum for an award for their building and as an organization.

Discussion of 2022 Meeting with Historic Preservation Groups

Commissioners reviewed the proposed agenda for the February 2022 meeting. The consensus of the Commission was to add Discussion of Volunteers for Structure Survey and Historic Preservation Awards after the Presentation on the Historic Structure Survey.

Discussion of Historic Survey Project/Certified Local Government Grant

There was no update on this project; the Commission was waiting on the State for information regarding grant award.

Discussion of Cemeteries

Commissioners reviewed the updated map and list of cemeteries with the information from the Kendall County Historical Society.

Member Bernacki walked around the Seward Mound Cemetery. He noted the various names of the cemetery. He noted that many headstones were knocked over. The local American Legion or VFW seemed to have some accounting of the cemetery.

Member Heiman discussed the Kendall County IL GenWeb website. Discussion occurred about purchasing information related to each cemetery. Mr. Asselmeier will research the cost and who owns the information. Chairman Wehrli suggested documenting the information, making the information available for the public, and honoring veterans.

Member Heiman asked what the Commission intended to do with the cemetery information.

Member Bernacki asked if the cemetery associations were still active. Discussion occurred regarding whether or not these organizations were completing the required tax information.

Member Heiman discussed oral histories of World War II veterans.

CORRESPONDENCE

December 2021 Edition of The Bell Tower

Commissioners reviewed the newsletter.

Chairman Wehrli suggested putting an article in The Bell Tower; Chairman Wehrli will ask if publishing an article was possible.

December 6, 2021 Letter from the Edith Farnsworth House

Commissioners reviewed the letter.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

Member Flowers made a motion, seconded by Member Heiman, to adjourn. With a voice vote of five (5) ayes, the motion carried. The Historic Preservation Commission adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

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