

KENDALL COUNTY
Historic Preservation Commission
Plano Masonic Lodge
5 ½ Main Street, Plano, Illinois
6:00 p.m.
March 21, 2024

NEW BUSINESS

Tour of Masonic Lodge

Bruce Johnston led attendees on a tour of the Masonic Lodge starting at 6:04 p.m. He explained the history of the building, the organization, and the layout of the meeting area.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jeff Wehrli called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Eric Bernacki (Vice-Chair), Elizabeth Flowers, Marty Shanahan, and Jeff Wehrli (Chairman)

Absent: Kristine Heiman (Secretary)

Also Present: Matt Asselmeier (Director), and Bruce Johnston

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Member Flowers made a motion, seconded by Member Bernacki, to the agenda. With a voice vote of four (4) ayes, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Flowers made a motion, seconded by Member Bernacki, to approve the minutes from the December 18, 2023, meeting, January 17, 2024, gathering and February 21, 2024, meeting. With a voice vote of four (4) ayes, the motion carried.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Wehrli thanked the Masonic Lodge for hosting the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of a Proclamation Declaring May Historic Preservation Month in Kendall County

Member Flowers made a motion, seconded by Member Shanahan, to approve the proclamation. With a voice vote of four (4) ayes, the motion carried.

The proclamation will be presented at the May 7, 2024, County Board meeting.

Mr. Asselmeier would let the Commission know if a new theme is developed for the Historic Preservation Month proclamation.

Review of Historic Preservation Award Applications; Commission Could Select Winner(s)

The nominees were Chapel on the Green, Susan Kritzberg, Roger Matile, Lisa Wolancevich, and Naperville Preservation, Inc.

Mr. Asselmeier reported that plaques were approximately One Hundred Forty-Six Dollars (\$146) apiece and the Commission had approximately Four Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$450) remaining.

The consensus of Commissioners was to grant awards to the individuals nominated instead of the organizations because the organization would likely continue to exist in future years.

Member Shanahan made a motion, seconded by Member Flowers, to approve awards for Susan Kritzberg, Roger Matile, and Lisa Wolancevich. With a voice vote of four (4) ayes, the motion carried.

Mr. Asselmeier will contact the applicants and confirm availability for the May 21, 2024, County Board meeting.

Discussion of 13860 Fox Road

Mr. Asselmeier said that the Illinois Department of Natural Resources contacted the County regarding possible efforts to repurpose the former tenant house located on the Tribune Experimental Farm; this land became part of Silver Springs State Park. A study of possible uses for the property could be financed through a Certified Local Government Grant. The cost of undertaking the study was unknown. Discussion occurred regarding which entity would be responsible for maintenance. Discussion occurred about renting the property. The consensus of the Commission would be open to including the house in the survey for Fox Township and establishing agreements between various units of government and the Farm Bureau.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion of February 2024 Meeting with Historic Preservation Organizations

Approval of Invoice for Food in the Amount of \$49.50; Invoice to Be Paid from PBZ Department's Historical Preservation Line Item 11001902-63830

Member Flowers made a motion, seconded by Member Shanahan, to approve the invoice.

The votes were as follows:

Yeas (4): Bernacki, Flowers, Shanahan, and Wehrli

Nays (0): None

Abstain (0): None

Absent (1): Heiman

The motion carried.

Follow-Up Discussion Regarding the Meeting

Several Commissioners stated they felt the meeting went well. Member Bernacki discussed the LaSalle County museums passport program. The library passport program was mentioned. Member Flowers noted that it was difficult to hear the speaker over the computer.

***Discussion of Having Commission Meetings at Historic Locations in the County; Commission Could Determine Meeting Locations and Times
Henneberry Barn and Ashley Farm***

Commissioners reviewed the email about meeting at the Henneberry Barn. The consensus of the Commission was to have the May 20th meeting at the Henneberry Barn. Mr. Asselmeier will confirm availability.

Mr. Asselmeier will contact Ashley Farm about availability in June.

Pickerill Pigot House for Summer Meeting with Historic Groups

The consensus of the Commission was to have the summer group meeting at the Pickerill Pigot House on July 15th. Mr. Asselmeier will confirm availability.

Discussion of Historic Structure Surveys

Mr. Asselmeier reported that grant applications will be sent during the summer. To date, the grant reimbursement check has not been received.

Discussion of Native American Tribes Associated with Kendall County

Commissioners reviewed the email from the Illinois Department of Transportation on the matter. Chairman Wehrli will further research the matter.

CORRESPONDENCE

December 28, 2023, Email from the Edith Farnsworth House

Commissioners reviewed the email.

Proactive Historic Preservation and Adaptive Reuse in Chicago Event Flyer

Commissioners reviewed the flyer.

Preservation Approaches for Cultural Landscapes Webinar

Commissioners reviewed the email.

Northern Illinois Regional History Conference

Commissioners reviewed the information.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Seward Township will be exploring acquiring the Seward Mound Cemetery.

Little Rock Township will be exploring acquiring the Griswold Springs Cemetery.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Flowers made a motion, seconded by Member Shanahan, to adjourn. With a voice vote of four (4) ayes, the motion carried. The Historic Preservation Commission adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Matthew H. Asselmeier, AICP, CFM
Director