

**VILLAGE OF HUNTLEY  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING  
Tuesday, November 17, 2015  
MINUTES**

5 CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Donna Britton called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of the Village of Huntley Historic Preservation Commission for Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at 6:00 pm in the Village Board Room, located at 10987 Main Street, Huntley, Illinois 60142. The room is handicap accessible.

10

ROLL CALL - ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners Geri Rizzo, Jake Marino, and Deb Waters,  
Vice Chair Lonni Oldham and Chairperson Donna Britton

15

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioners Karen Langhenry and Diana Carpenter

ALSO PRESENT: Director of Development Services Charles Nordman and Planner James Williams

20

PUBLIC COMMENT There were no public comments.

4. Approval of Minutes

25

- A. **A MOTION was made to approve the October 20, 2015 Historic Preservation Commission meeting minutes with the following changes:**

**Page 1, Lines 28 and 29, add “for this quarter. The award-winning property owners were presented with a certificate and Pride in Preservation yard sign.”**

30

**MOVED: Vice Chair Oldham**

**SECONDED: Commissioner Rizzo**

**AYES: Commissioners Rizzo, Marino and Waters, Vice Chair Oldham and  
Chairperson Britton**

**NAYS: None**

**ABSTAIN: None**

35

**MOTION CARRIED 5:0:0**

5. Old Business

40

*Pride in Preservation*

Chairperson Britton noted that last month’s meeting minutes included discussion about the potential Pride in Preservation nominee properties at 11513 Main Street (SEC of Main/Myrtle) and 11610 Main Street (north side of Main adjacent to the east of the FCC property) that had received Pride in Preservation awards in 2011 and 2010, respectively. Director Nordman had pointed out that the new owner of the former property has made some improvements to the property and the latter residence has been recently painted.

45

After a brief discussion it was agreed to consider formal nomination of these two properties on Main Street along with any other nominee-properties at the next Historic Preservation Commission meeting.

50

- A. Historic Preservation Ordinance Revisions

Vice Chair Oldham distributed copies of the “Purpose” section and “Goals/Duties/Powers” section from the Historic Preservation Ordinances of various municipalities around the Chicago area to compare with those

corresponding sections from Huntley’s Historic Preservation Ordinance to determine what revisions may be appropriate.

Chairperson Britton noted that the “Purpose” section of Huntley’s Historic Preservation Ordinance is well written.

Vice Chair Oldham suggested that each Historic Commissioner review the information from the other municipalities and note those elements that they believe may be helpful to the review process.

#### B. 2016 Work Plan

Vice Chair Oldham distributed copies of the proposed additions she had made to the 2015 Work Plan to create a draft of the 2016 Work Plan.

Vice Chair Oldham noted that the Support annual art contest under Goals will be removed with the understanding that this type of program may be added on a future work plan.

After a brief discussion it was decided to add Item (a) “to conduct a survey of structures, buildings, sites, objects, and areas in the Village in order to identify those with architectural, historical, archaeological, or cultural significance” from the Historic Preservation Ordinance Section 159.012 Authority and Duties under Enabling Language for the Goal “Document and highlight structures lost to demolition”.

Commissioner Marino asked if there was a deadline for the completion of the 2016 Work Plan and Director Nordman offered that there was no deadline for its completion and noted that the work plan serves simple to guide what tasks are to be completed through the course of 2016.

In regard to Section 159.012 Authority and Duties. (E) which references the keeping of a register of all landmarks or historic districts, Chairperson Britton asked Staff if a register of these properties is being maintained.

Planner Williams acknowledged that a register of all locally-designated landmarks and properties within the Huntley Historic District are maintained by the Village’s Development Services Department.

Chairperson Britton noted that it is her understanding that the survey, including photos, of recently razed buildings, i.e. 11613 Main Street (Faubl Family Dentistry site), 11801 Main Street (Sawyer-Kelley Mill building), are archived at the Huntley Area Public Library and that it may be appropriate to have a copy of these materials stored with the Village’s Development Services Department.

Vice Chair Oldham, referring to the Goal: Installation of historic designation signage on the draft 2016 Work Plan, asked what the purposed historic signage for the downtown area will look like and Director Nordman pointed out that the historic signage will look very similar to the signs used for the Visit McHenry County facility at 11879 Main Street.

In regard to the Goal: Conduct a professional architectural survey of homes/businesses in old section of the Village, Chairperson Britton noted that Commissioner Carpenter was investigating alternative ways of funding an extensive historic survey more cost effectively.

Vice Chair Oldham agreed to update the draft of the 2016 Work Plan based on the discussion at this evening’s meeting and send a copy of this information to Planner Williams to complete a final draft of the 2016 Work Plan.

#### C. Local at Local History Events – May, 2016

Vice Chair Oldham noted that the proposed geocaching event will be postponed to avoid any conflicts with the on-going construction in the downtown square and surrounding area. An alternative event being considered is a

scavenger hunt entailing clues that will lead participants to various sites which must be digitally photographed and the series of photographs submitted as a completed entry. Winners will then be drawn from the pool of completed entries.

5 Additional events and activities discussed were compilation a historic placemats distributed to Village restaurants through the month of May and a bus tour sponsored by area businesses and coordinated through the Huntley Historical Society as a fundraiser.

10 Chairperson Britton noted that the bus tour route could be craft from the Second Street and Downtown Walking Tour Maps and Woodstock Street stroll scripts that have been produced over the last several years.

#### D. Very Merry Huntley Tree Decorating

15 Vice Chair Oldham stated that she will craft garland for the tree and that Nancy Bacheller and Mary Beth Manning with the Huntley Area Public Library have collected several dairy farming photographs for ornaments.

Commissioner Marino offered to investigate whether a top to a milk can that he has may make an appropriate and suitable tree stand.

#### 20 6. New Business

##### A. Certificate of Appreciation Nominees

25 Chairperson Britton noted that past Certificate of Appreciation recipient-properties have been Strodes furniture, Paul Godlewski, owner of the office building at the northwest corner of Main/Woodstock Streets and the adaptive re-use property at 11510 Main Street, which is also in the Huntley Historic District. Chairperson Britton remarked that these types of businesses were commemorated for the restoration and maintenance of their historic significant buildings.

30 Commissioner Marino suggested nominating Shampoooch and Kitty at 11806 Main Street for recognition of the façade improvements they are making to that property.

35 Chairperson Britton suggested commemorating those businesses that celebrate Huntley's historical past through the display of photographs and/or artifacts and noted examples of these businesses include Goodfellas restaurant, Starbucks and the new McDonalds within the Huntley Grove commercial subdivision.

40 Director Nordman suggested that while the criteria for recognizing properties that have maintained historic significant properties may be easy to understand, it will important to have a well-defined set of criteria in place for how businesses that celebrate Huntley's history are selected in order to avoid any confusion.

Commissioner Rizzo agreed that the award for the celebration of Huntley's history should be reserved for those businesses that provide displays worthy of receiving such an award and the award selection criteria should reflect what is expected of these displays.

45 Director Nordman reviewed the Village's façade improvement program selection criteria noting that proposed facade improvements are evaluated upon how well the resulting project will conform to the Village's standards outlined by the Commercial Design Guidelines and Downtown Revitalization program. Therefore, properties receiving commemoration for historic preservation should also be held to similarly high-standard.

50 After significant discussion of how the Certificate of Appreciation award would be split between two (2) types of properties it was agreed to revisit the nomination of one or two properties over the next few months.

B. Second Street Historic District

5 Chairperson Britton recalled the Huntley Village Board's approval on November 5, 2015 of Vice-Chair Oldham's residence at 11618 Second Street for inclusion within the Huntley Historic District, noting that the review and approval process went very well.

10 Chairperson Britton noted that, following the September 30, 2015 meeting at her residence, Commission Carpenter had notified her that she would be willing to hold another open house with realtors invited this time to make the case for historic designation of the properties along Second Street.

After a brief discussion it was decided to set aside the matter of historic-designations of properties along Second Street until later in 2016.

C. Publicity Update

15 Chairperson Britton stated that the Village's e-news articles on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, announcing the Pride in Preservation awards to 11302 Grove Street and 11879 Main Street, and the November 16<sup>th</sup> article outlining the inclusion of Vice Chair Oldham's residence on Second Street were appreciated.

20 Discussion ensued regarding the promotion of Look at Local History month in May, 2016, including the hope that the Village's changeable-copy monument sign at the southeast corner of Route 47 and Main Street could play an instrumental role.

25 Chairperson Britton also suggested that the future Pride in Preservation program include extending an invitation of past award-winning property owners to attend the meeting where newly nominated property owners received their awards.

7. Adjournment

30 At 8:29 p.m., A MOTION was made by Commissioner Marino to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Vice-Chair Oldham. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

*James Williams*

35 Planner  
Village of Huntley