

**Oak Park Historic Preservation Commission  
Education Committee  
January 28, 2013 Meeting Minutes  
Oak Park Village Hall, Room 215, 7:30 pm**

**ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Chair Christina Morris, Joerg Albrecht, Gary Palese, Frank Heitzman  
ABSENT: Regina Nally, Drew Niermann  
OTHER: Karen Doty  
STAFF: Douglas Kaarre, Urban Planner

**MINUTES**

*Motion by Heitzman to approve the October 22, 2012 meeting minutes as submitted. Second by Palese. Motion approved 4-0.*

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**A. 2012 Historic Preservation Awards**

The Committee discussed the November 13 event. The coordination of the awards with the Environment and Energy Commission and the Community Design Commission went well and was well attended. There were nothing but positive comments regarding the event, reception, food and location at Unity Temple. There were no apparent conflicts in message with the different awards, although that potential is there in the future. The Committee thought it would be a good idea to discuss a joint award with each commission in the future.

**B. 2013 Historic Preservation Commission Work Plan**

The Committee went through the proposed 2013 work plan, which was recently approved by the Village Board.

- Architectural Review Guidelines: The focus group comments were positive and there is direction to move ahead with the remaining sections in the revised format. Chair Chris Morris provided an overview of that meeting. The remaining sections should be completed in the revised format with an eye towards staying near the 80-page limit outlined in the contract, though no leaving out anything important. Preservation Design Partnership (PDP) should notify the Village if the document will exceed 80 pages. The HPC will be completing the sections on architectural styles, definitions and FAQ. The final public meeting will be held when all sections are complete. They will target contractors, architects, realtors and property owners in the historic districts and landmarks. Notification will include a press release, the web site, email and the AIA is doing a story in their newsletter. A one-page summary of the process and revisions will be prepared, highlighting focus group participation.
- Newsletter: The next edition of the newsletter should be completed in the next several months. Ideas include an overview of the Awards event; and update on the Guidelines revision process; a recap of permit reviews; and a paragraph on the availability of the Architectural Review Committee for free advice. It was also suggested to contact John Tandarich of Triton College to write an article on archeology in Oak Park.
- Historic Landmarks: Staff is working on two nominations and will send out another round of outreach letters to owners on the Potential Landmark Inventory. Chair Morris will review the letter prior to sending.
- 2013 Preservation Awards: Volunteers are needed to organize the 2013 awards. A request will be made at the February 14 HPC meeting. They should also reach out to the EEC and CDC for their volunteer coordinators.

- Board and Commission Training: Chair Chris Morris will contact Trustee Tucker to see if the Board is interested in another training session. Other commissioners should work with their assigned commissions to see if training is of interest: Regina Nally (Plan Commission), Frank Heitzman (Environment & Energy Commission), Chris Morris (Community Design Commission).
- I-290 Survey: Staff will follow-up with the Manager's office regarding the December memo outlining recommendations and seeking direction.
- Hulbert/Hogans Surveys: Staff will follow-up with the School of the Art Institute on this student class project.
- Preservation Alliance: Commissioner Frank Heitzman will look into organizing an initial meeting.
- Realtor Training: Karen Doty is now working as a realtor with Gagliardo Realty and will inquire if they would like to host an informational session. One of the principals is also president of the Oak Park Area Association of Realtors, and she will inquire if they are interested in hosting an information session.
- Village Hall National Register Nomination: This item is on the 2013 HPC work plan and staff will follow up on direction from the Village Manager's office.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Karen Doty suggested the HPC host an information session specifically for churches on historic preservation and energy efficiency. The Committee suggested potential involvement of Mark Nussbaum, Partners for Sacred Places, John Porterfield, Interfaith Oak Park, Jean Carroon, and the organization of local churches involved in sustainability.

Green Business Program: Planner Kaarre noted that this program, sponsored by Oak Park Development Corporation provides an opportunity for HPC involvement during their training session on energy. The Committee suggested Staff follow up with more detail on what is proposed on the agenda and who will be presenting, as well as a potential date.

Photorama of the Frank Lloyd Wright-Prairie School of Architecture Historic District: Planner Kaarre noted that he was contacted by local resident Mary Vostal regarding her photo project. She is looking for suggestions for sponsorship. The Committee noted that it was a worthwhile project but was unable to provide specific assistance. They suggested contacting local arts organizations who may be able to host an exhibit to promote the project, such as the Arts Council, Public Art Commission, Library and Photography Club.

Historic Review Process Flow Chart: The Committee reviewed a draft flow chart prepared by Staff and Frank Heitzman which graphically describes the historic review process. Comments on ways to simplify the organization were provided.

## **ADJOURN**

*Motion by Palese to adjourn. Second by Albrecht. Motion approved: 4-0.*

*AYE: Albrecht, Heitzman, Morris, Palese*

*NAY: None*

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m. Minutes prepared Douglas Kaarre.

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