

Palmyra Historic Preservation Commission Minutes

January 15, 2015

Present: Chairperson Ellie Drake, vice chair Jim Elliott, Commissioners Chris Daly, Michael Haskins, Becky Remington, Village Board Liaison Vicky Daly.

Absent: Consulting Architect Mark Vande.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Minutes: Becky Remington made a motion to approve the minutes; the motion was seconded by Jim Elliott, and passed unanimously.

Village Board Presentation: Vicky Daly made a report to the Village Board about the Commission's activities. The Board was interested in the Facebook page idea, and passed a resolution giving their support. The VBoard was interested in learning more about Zombie Houses, but they were concerned that VBoard funding would be necessary. Vicky Daly concluded that additional research would need to be done to see if there were other NYS communities around the size of Palmyra that are addressing the Zombie house problem. This led to discussion of the corner row house on Main and Clinton. Michael Haskins said that he saw three people there recently, one of whom was either a realtor or property manager named Warren James, and the other two were doing maintenance-type work at the property. Mr. James gave Michael contact information that might be useful.

Ellie Drake said we should contact SHPO to see if we can nominate a property if the owner is unavailable. Vicky Daly volunteered to do so. Ellie pointed out that the Times of Wayne Co. had a write up on the VBoard presentation that Vicky Daly made.

Michael Haskins volunteered to ask Dean George if we could nominate the cobblestone house on Church St. Michael is willing to have his home locally nominated as well, and Joan DeCann has already agreed to local nomination. It was suggested that these local nominations be promoted for Preservation Month in May.

Becky Remington made contact with Reginald Neal to get his background so that we can use it to promote a 9th period history class talk. Becky will ask R. Neal if he can speak on 4/16 or 4/30. Cynthia Howk has already agreed to speak in March.

Vicky Daly told the commissioners that Irene Unterborn had a list of contacts that we might ask if we can use for the promotion of 9th period History Classes. Vicky will give Ellie Drake Irene's email after Vicky gets approval from Irene.

Facebook: Becky Remington put up a FB page for the Commission. She is working on privacy settings so that it can be viewed, but so that only authorized people can comment. Vicky Daly said she would ask the Mayor if he would write a "Welcome" letter for the FB page.

Inventory: Vicky Daly will ask SHPO if a tax ID number is needed on the inventory. Vicky also suggested that all the village addresses could be gotten from the village water bills.

Joan DeCann will be working on local designation. The Commission thought that she might be willing to be a 9th Period History Class speaker in October.

9th Period History Classes: the commission thought that we should not schedule anything for July, as many are out of town then. April and October both have 5 Thursdays; the 5th Thursdays could be used for the events.

More on Zombie Houses: the Mayor is concerned that addressing the Zombie house problem would require funding by the Village. Vicky Daly offered to speak to SHPO and/or the Preservation League to see if the issue is being addressed by towns similar in size to ours. Ellie Drake offered to contact Warren James to learn about the corner row house on Main and Clinton.

Chris Daly told the group that Cynthia Howk and Caitlyn Mieves from the LSWNY were speaking at the Brainery at the Village Gate about architectural styles. Vicky Daly suggested that we invite them to speak in Wayne County, with the offer of taking donations and selling books. The group thought 7/30 might work. Ellie Drake said she would talk to Patricia Baynes about reserving the meeting room at the library.

Other Business: Vicky Daly asked if all the forms are online. Ellie Drake said she would check with the webmaster to see what he's got. Ellie said he should have the Standards. Ellie said that Chris Daly now has all the photos that Ellie has. Ellie will give them to the village clerk and the webmaster.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Christine Daly.