Palmyra Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes

April 16, 2015

Present: Chair Ellie Drake, Vice Chair Jim Elliott, Commissioners Chris Daly, Rebecca Remington, Alternate John Robbins. Village Board Liaison Vicky Daly, Architectural Consultant Mark Vande.

Absent: Commissioner Michael Haskins.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Minutes: Jim Elliott made a motion to accept the minutes; John Robbins seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

May Tours: Plans were made for the commission to host tours of the Village Hall and Sexton Building, and possibly the bandstand on Sunday, May 3rd between 2:00 and 4:00 pm and May 30, if the first tour is well attended. A cemetery tour was discussed, and Jim Elliott said that Gary Hopkins could give keys to the chapel to Jim or to Trustee David Husk. The cemetery tour might be in July. Jim Elliott said he would work on the cemetery tour, but would need more volunteers.

Spotlights: In May we will be spotlighting the bandstand. In July we can spotlight the cemetery, perhaps with a photo with a signboard that says “This Place Matters.” Chris Daly suggested Western Presbyterian Church for June. She said she would contact Rev. Nancy Farrell.

Local Landmark Designations: John Robbins reported that he and Dean George have not made progress in the nomination process. Michael Haskins also has not moved forward in the nomination process. Ellie Drake said that she has not spoken to Joan DeCann about her local nomination recently.

Weekly Articles for Preservation Month: Jim Elliott agreed to write an article on the history of Historic Preservation in the Village of Palmyra. Vicky Daly said she has a chronology going back to Mayor Sid Fitzgerald that might be helpful. Jim’s article would be the first in a series. The second article in the series is about the inventory of homes, to be written by Ellie Drake. Vicky Daly will write an article about Certified Local Governments for the third installment, and Chris Daly will write an article on tax credits as the final submission for Preservation Month.

Ninth Period History Class: Ken Artle agreed to speak at the May 21st meeting about cobblestone masonry repair. He told John Robbins that he would need an easel, table and paper for his talk. Vicky Daly offered to bring markers. John Robbins will introduce him. Ellie Drake said she would contact the past speaker who owned a cobblestone house. Ellie will also give a promo poster to Vicky to take to Muddy Waters. Vicky will give Dee Foley’s email to Ellie Drake. Rebecca Remington will send Reginald Neale info for a Fall presentation. Ellie has not yet contacted Dave Young, the Colonial Craftsman, to speak.
Inventory: Ellie Drake reported that the homes inventory is all on the spreadsheet, and about 80% of them are scanned. She hopes to have them done by the end of the year.

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Christine Daly.

TO DO LIST:

**Ellie Drake**: write an article about the inventory of homes, and to organize the submission of the other 3 articles for preservation month. Contact the Hopewell cobblestone house owner who presented so that she knows about Mr. Artle’s talk. Give Vicky poster for Mr. Artle’s talk. At some point, contact Dave Young, the Colonial Craftsman about speaking.

**Jim Elliott**: To start planning of Cemetery tour. Meet with Vicky re: May tours. Write article about the history of preservation in Palmyra, and to that end, get chronology from Vicky.

**Chris Daly**: Do May spotlight, contact Nancy Farrell (Rev. Farrell was contacted and she is forwarding our request onto the appropriate people.) In the interim, Chris will contact reps from the Reformed church to see if they agree to spotlighting their church. Write an article on tax credits. Find “this place matters” pin to scan to Ellie. (looked for pin, and did not find. Vicky found a supply of them at the Village Hall.)

**John Robbins**: Introduce Mr. Artle at May meeting.

**Rebecca Remington**: to contact Reginald Neale to send him things for Fall.