

LANDMARKS COMMISSION

Minutes

June 18, 2019

Members Present: Gordon Kinder, Ron Larson, Stephanie Brassington, Kathy Krusiec,
Members Absent: Virginia Nichols
Staff Present: Pauline Boness, Karen Knoll
Others Present: Elsa Reeves

1. CALL TO ORDER

Brassington called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Larson to approve the May 23, 2019 minutes, seconded by Krusiec. Motion carried 4-0.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

4. BUSINESS

- a. Public Hearing Review and possible recommendation to the Village Board regarding a request by Landmarks Commission to designate 5979 Siggelkow Road, Commons Threads, as a local historic structure/site. The property is currently zoned A-1 Exclusive Agricultural.

Elsa Reeves - 5903 Juniper Ridge - Spoke in favor but did not understand why the change at this time. Kinder replied it is due to the property being annexed into McFarland. Larson pointed out it is currently on the National Historic registry, and the Landmarks Commission wanted it to also be registered as a local landmark. Brassington asked for clarification on the properties having a plaque identifying them as a historic structure. Boness responded at a previous meeting the Historical Society advised not all property owners want a plaque on their home. They are the ones who reach out to those property owners of the historically designated property. Kinder advised while the Landmarks Commission and Historical society have some parallels in what they do, they each have their own specific duties.

Kinder moved to recommend to the Village Board approval of a request by Landmarks Commission to designate 5979 Siggelkow Road, Commons Threads, as a local historic structure/site. Krusiec seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

- b. Discussion only - Holiday walk of historic homes in connection with Christmas in the Village.

Krusiec summarized she requested this item to be on the agenda. Krusiec would hope we could find four or five owners who would like to open their homes to the public for a holiday tour. She would like to see it start and finish at the Larson house, and this event could be used as a fundraiser. Kinder pointed out, this will take quite a few volunteers to run this event, and whomever chaired this would have to reach out to local volunteer organizations to see if they could help. Larson agreed, events like this are fun, however, a committee would need to be set up, there would have to be a budget, chairperson, and many volunteers.

Commissioners discussed issues such as people wearing shoes into people's homes, having enough volunteers in the homes to direct people and protect the homes and owner's property. Krusiec stated an event like this is quite an undertaking. Boness pointed out you first have to decide who is going to chair and run the event, running it would fall to the Historical Society.

Commissioners discussed various options with an event like this, is it self-guided, are there set times, is it like a walking tour? How you control the flow of people into homes, security of homes, and personal belongings. The possibility of musicians playing in the homes, number of volunteers needed, the need for decorations in the homes, and partners and other groups in the community in order to put this together. Krusiec envisions some Landmarks Commission members would volunteer to help with this event. Boness stated if any Commissioner wanted to work with the Historical Society in putting this event together, they could do that, but it would be a Historical Society event.

Boness summarized the first step would be to have someone to reach out to the Historical Society and see if there is any interest. If the Historical Society was, then they would form a small committee and send letters out to homeowners to gauge their interest that would give you an answer as to interest in even holding the event.

Brassington suggested first meeting with the Historical Society to see if there is any interest on their part. Boness suggested having one member of the Commission meet with the President of the Historical Society. It would only need to be a brief meeting to see if the Historical Society is even interested in holding this type of event. Larson suggested making contact with Jane Licht, as she would give honest feedback. Krusiec advised she would volunteer to make contact with the Historical Society and then contact Boness in the Community Development Department once she has made contact and has information to report.

5. SCHEDULING NEXT MEETING DATE

Meeting to be scheduled as needed

Larson would like to suggest for a future meeting looking at other properties to potentially be designated as a local landmarks. Kinder inquired if there is an age bracket for homes.

Larson responded there was one when initially formed, many years have gone by and there are other properties, possibly from the 50's era.

Brassington thanked Boness for her 21 years of service to the community as she is retiring in July.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Kinder moved to adjourn, Larson seconded the motion. Motion carried meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Approved