

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION OF THE VILLAGE OF MONTEBELLO WAS HELD ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2009 AT VILLAGE HALL. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:15 PM FOLLOWED BY THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Roll call.

Members Present: Hannelore Renud
Josephine Bracken-Chairwoman
Valerie Rainford
Wayne Leone

Others Present: Craig Long-Village Historian

Members Absent: Sandra Ward
Chantal Schwartz-Ad Hoc
Wayne Leone
Bill Pfaff, Alternate Village Architect

Others Absent: Warren E. Berbit, Village Attorney

Recording Secretary: Shelly Flanagan-Ramos-Deputy Village Clerk

The Village Attorney is not in attendance due to a conflict with the Board of Trustee meeting that was held on the same night.

Chairperson Bracken read the minutes from November 19, 2008.

Members discussed the renovations taking place on the Fant Farm. Chairperson Bracken spoke with Mr. Amona about taking down the keystones, however he stated they are attached to a larger section of material on the house, therefore making it difficult to remove, secondly, they were very costly.

Member Rainford finds it difficult to attend monthly meetings and felt the Commission would make more progress with having conference tele-call type meetings every two weeks or so from home. Members felt this may be a good idea but do have some concerns. Craig Long mentioned the legality of having meetings without the meeting being able to have the public present. Chairwomen Bracken noted there is not much need for additional meetings at this point because there is not a lot of HPC business.

Discussion on the Mansion property, Fant Property and the Johnson Farm. Member Rainford stated the Commission has spent countless hours presiding over these projects and is disappointed with the present state of the properties, especially the Goldberg Mansion. The clear cutting of the trees is disgraceful.

Discussion on the Architectural Historian that will be hired to survey all of the historical homes in the Village. Commission member's commented on how very important the Historic Survey is at this time and would like the Request for Proposals sent out in the near future to any qualified Architectural Historians. Chairwomen Bracken will speak to the Village Clerk about the next steps to get this process started.

The Commission discussed the project book/checklist the HPC Architect, Mr. William Pfaff has submitted regarding projects under the HPC jurisdiction. Chairwomen Bracken stressed the need to pay particularly close attention to the building structures that will be erected on the Mansion property; she does not want to have another problem like the Fant Cottage demolition. Commission members requested that Martin Spence, our Village Engineer be very involved with the building of these carriage homes, making sure the builder uses the proper materials that were approved and follows the direction the HPC set forth in their granting of approval.

Discussion on the Fant cottage demolition and the fines that were imposed.

Chairman Bracken met with the Planning Board and felt the meeting was productive.

Resolution: 09-001

Village of Montebello (HPC)

Title: Approval of Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED, the Minutes of the Meetings of the Historic Preservation Commission of November 19, 2008 be and are hereby approved.

Motion: Member Rainford

Second: Member Renud

Motion was carried by all.

Discussion on property located on Bayard Lane that has historical significance. In the 30's this property was a commune. A property owner at 9 S. Bayard would like to demolish the small historic Hansel & Gretel type home on the lot and build a larger home, neighbors in the area are concerned with the impact it will have on the surrounding property owners as well as the river which runs through the property. The owner requested a zone change and four variances from the Zoning Board of Appeals. Chairwomen Bracken felt the HPC should act quickly on designating this area as a historic landmark.

She announced the approval from the Board of Trustees giving Historical Designation of Village Hall.

Commissioners agreed to keep their monthly meetings at Village Hall in lieu of the new Montebello Community Center.

Member Renud motioned to adjourn at 8:35 p.m., Member Leone seconded, motion carried by all.