

Village of Oswego
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, January 25, 2023

Village Hall – Community Room
100 Parkers Mill, Oswego, Illinois 60543

1. CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Oswego Historic Preservation Commission was called to order at 7:02 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Commissioners George, Zentner, and Terrazas
Members Absent: Commissioner Natonek
Others Present: Valeria Tarka

3. MINUTES – Approval Of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Zentner and seconded by Commissioner George to approve the minutes from the October 26, 2022 meeting.

Aye: Commissioners George and Zentner
Nay: None
Abstain: Commissioners Terrazas
Absent: Commissioners Natonek

The motion carried (approved 2-0).

4. PUBLIC FORUM

No residents in attendance.

5. OLD BUSINESS

a. Downtown Oswego Historic District (DOHD)

Ms. Tarka shared the two estimates and mock-up designs that she received for the DOHD plaques. The Commission discussed the two signs including the size and appearance and asked that Ms. Tarka ask one of the companies to make a smaller sign and the other one to add ornamentation to the sign. Ms. Tarka agreed to asking the sign company for those revisions.

The group also discussed the possible locations for the plaques along the DOHD. Commissioner Terrazas stated that corner of Main & Jackson and the corner of Main & Washington are high visibility corners. Chairperson George and Commissioner Zentner agreed that 2 signs on either side of the DOHD helps to bound the area and agreed with the potential placement of the plaques at these corners. Ms. Tarka stated that she will reach out to Public Works regarding the plans for the future signal at Main & Washington to ensure that there would be enough room in the ROW to add the plaque.

b. Historic Preservation Month Activities

Ms. Tarka presented potential options for the walking tour for Historic Preservation Month, including a stone house walking tour, Oswego historic landmark walking tour, Sears home walking tour, and downtown Oswego historic district walking tour. Chairperson George inquired if sponsorship or donations are possible for the walking tour. Ms. Tarka stated that the Village could create a policy for sponsorship or donation for events but it would have to be created prior to any outside funding coming in. Commissioner Terrazas inquired what the format of the walking tour would look like. Ms. Tarka stated that it is up to the Commission, but the intention would be that the Commissioners each take a building or a group of buildings to discuss the history and potentially

current use of the buildings. Ms. Tarka stated that the HPC could also reach out to the business owners/property owners to see if they would want to participate in the event by speaking on the history of the building or the current use of the building. Chairperson George stated that this would be beneficial to any business owners who participate as it will bring foot traffic to the area.

The Commissioners unanimously agreed to having the Downtown Oswego Historic District Walking Tour for the May 2023 Historic Preservation Month activity. The Commissioners discussed possible dates for the walking tour, Chairperson George and Commissioner Terrazas stated that having the event on a Sunday could allow for more people to come as people may be busy with sports and other activities on Saturday. The Commissioners unanimously agreed to having the walking tour on Sunday, May 21st from 11am-1pm.

The Commission discussed a general timeline of when activities should be done to ensure that the Commission is preparing for the event. Ms. Tarka stated that she will follow-up with an email breaking up activities and asking the Commissioners to take on some of the work.

c. Honorary Street Names

i. *Review of Policy and Application. Application*

The Commission agreed to continue the conversation to the next HPC meeting.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Discussion on review fees and enforcement/penalties

The Commission agreed to continue the conversation to the next HPC meeting.

7. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson George explained that the Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission will be holding their meeting at Oswego Brewing company on February 15th at 6PM. He stated that Ms. Tarka has agreed to do a presentation on the DOHD during meeting. Ms. Tarka stated that she would forward the invite out to everyone in the HPC.

8. REPORTS

a. Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Zentner inquired about the status of the Honorary Street Name Policy and Application and how it coincides with the Historic Preservation Month. Commissioner Zentner requested that the Commission prioritize reviewing the draft policy and agenda at the next meeting to see if the Commission can have an honorary street name approved in May. Ms. Tarka said she can move the draft policy and agenda to the first item on old business.

Chairperson George inquired if the Commission could hold a special meeting after the Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission meeting on February 15th. Ms. Tarka stated she would follow-up with the Commission on if it would be possible.

b. Oswegoland Park District Report / Oswego Heritage Association Report

No Report

c. Development Services Report

No Report

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

10. NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, February 22, 2023

11. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Zentner, second Commissioner Terrazas adjourned the meeting at 8:39 pm.

Valeria Tarka

Valeria Tarka, Secretary