

**MINUTES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

June 2, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER

The June meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission was called to order on Thursday, June 2, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Barbara Buschman.

II. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Buschman, Batistich, Cummins, Roy, Schwartz and Yates present. Amy Hathaway of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, and Heather Valone, Village Planner, were also present.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Flynn, seconded by Ms. Roy, to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2016 meeting. Voice vote: 5 ayes. Motion passed.

IV. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

V. PUBLIC HEARING

VI. APPLICATIONS

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. National Register Application: Downtown Commercial District

Amy Hathaway, Survey and National Register Specialist with the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency announced that notice of this public meeting had been duly published in the local press. Ms. Hathaway presented an overview of the Historic Preservation Agency structure, stating that the Preservation Services Division administers the federal programs. She also noted that National Register designation is basically a recognition program for qualifying applicants, and one of the benefits of the designation is eligibility for the Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program. The program provides federal income tax incentives for the rehabilitation of historic income-producing properties. Properties in the district are now eligible for the incentives.

A map was distributed showing the proposed boundaries of the National Register district, encompassing commercial properties on Stephen, Canal, Main and Illinois Streets. The map illustrates contributing and non-contributing structures in the district, and includes the Stephen Street bridge. A full copy of the draft application was also distributed.

Ms. Hathaway described the nomination and approval process for the honorary designation of a National Register District. The application submitted by Village of Lemont has received preliminary approval from the Historic Preservation Agency. The next step in the process will be a public meeting on June 24 at 11:00 a.m. by the 15-member Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Council. The Council may either vote to recommend or deny, or may request submittal of additional information regarding the application.

Once approval is given to an application, the Council forwards it to the National Park Service, the agency responsible for granting the National Register designation. This process normally takes up to 2 months.

Ms. Hathaway complimented staff on a well prepared and documented application.

VIII. PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR COMMENTS

A. Update: St. James Academy

Ms. Valone updated the Commissioners on a previous application reviewed by the HPC.

IX. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

X. ADJOURN

Motion by Ms. Roy, seconded by Mr. Schwartz, to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Voice vote: 5 ayes. Meeting adjourned.