

Approved

**MINUTES
VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
February 3, 2021
Memorial Hall – Memorial Building, 19 East Chicago Avenue, Hinsdale
6:30 P.M.**

Chairman Bohnen called the meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) to order at 6:30 p.m. on February 3, 2021, conducted electronically, with a live audio stream of the meeting available to the public via Channel 6 and on the Village website.

Present: Chairman Bohnen, Commissioner Braden, Commissioner Weinberger, Commissioner Gonzalez, Commissioner Barclay, and Commissioner Haarlow, Commissioner Prisby
Absent: None
Also Present: Robb McGinnis - Director of Community Development, Nathan Parch - Interim Planner, and Mike Yurchak - Owner of The Fruit Store

Minutes – January 6, 2021

Chairman Bohnen introduced the minutes from the January 6, 2021, meeting and asked for any comments. With no comments or changes, the HPC **unanimously approved** the minutes for the January 6, 2021, HPC meeting, 7-0, (0 absent).

Discussion Items

- a) Downtown Signage - Discussion took place about the commission's plan from April 2019 to develop a more comprehensive approach to signage, relating signage to the architectural elements of the town. Commissioner Prisby will continue to work a document to share educational materials that can be used to make changes. The document will utilize a model from Salt Lake City, Utah and incorporate types of signs, photos and specific examples from Hinsdale. Commissioner Prisby requested 2-3 weeks to complete the document & circulate the materials to the committee. The discussion item was tabled until the document was ready to share with the group.
- b) Overlay District in CBD – Discussion took place about the need to protect the downtown district by re-drawing the historic downtown map to include the First St/Garfield Building and The Fruit Store or creating an overlay district. Historical background was provided to the committee about these two locations and how the current map came to be. It was stated that whichever method chosen should be effective and easily administered.
- c) Robbins Park Signage – Robb McGinnis confirmed \$10,000 was in this year's budget. Chairman Bohnen asked if it would be possible to purchase the Robbins Park Street Sign Toppers at this time for an estimated cost of around \$3,000 and have the Public Services Department install the signs. Chairman Bohnen stated an updated cost would need to be confirmed. Robb McGinnis will look into how soon funds would be made available for the HPC to move forward with the purchase of the street sign toppers.

Discussion moved to the red-lined sign ordinance provided to the committee by Robb McGinnis and the status of abandoned and temporary signs in the downtown district, staff is currently addressing the concerns the HPC had with these signs. The need for removal of brackets when signs are removed was brought up. Robb McGinnis will check the sign code relating to this issue. The committee expressed concerns about the number of signs allowed on job sites, the size of the sign, the length of time the sign is displayed and the need for consistency on this matter. Robb McGinnis will keep the HPC updated on the red-lined ordinance presented to the Village Board by the Village Attorney.

- d) **Title 14 Status** – Commissioner Prisby requested an update on Title 14. Nathan Parch stated the Village Board was working on incentives to include financial assistance, expedited processing of approvals, and zoning relief as well as demolition delays. A “decision making” matrix is being developed to be used by the Village as a tool to evaluate financial impacts and provide an opportunity to incorporate staff insight. At the request of Commissioner Braden, the draft text amendment will be forwarded to HPC. Chairman Bohnen asked what a realistic time line might be. Robb McGinnis stated it is desired a referral be made to the Plan Commission in the next 30-60 days and four to six months for the entire process to be complete.

It was confirmed at that the potential overlay discussed earlier in the meeting must also go through a public hearing process.

Positive comments were shared about the pass thru between the parking garage and the CBD included in the HPC packet.

Work on the revisions to the Robbins historic district map will continue by various committee members.

It was reported that no remnants of the digital map discussed at past meetings have been located at Village Hall.

The idea of working with the Economic Development Committee to purchase and install the CBD street sign toppers was suggested. It was also noted the way finding signs that are showing their age could also be replaced as part of the CBD street sign topper project.

Public Comment – Mike Yurchak, owner of The Fruit Store, explained his desire for The Fruit Store to remain excluded from the historic district based on concerns related to limitations of future renovations, property value and potential re-sale issues.

New Business – Chairman Bohnen asked if any committee members had any new business items to share. Hearing none, the Chairman requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Adjournment – The HPC unanimously agreed to adjourn at 7:48PM on February 3, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Spires, Community Development Office