

**MINUTES** of the **October 6, 2016** meeting of the **Villa Park Historical Preservation Commission** of the Village of Villa Park was held at 7:30 PM (Thursday) at the Villa Park Historical Museum, 220 S. Villa Avenue, Villa Park IL 60181.

## 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The October 6, 2016 VPHPC Meeting was called to order by Carol Marcus, VPHPC Chair, at 7:30 pm.

## 2. ROLL CALL

**PRESENT:** Carol Marcus - Chair/Secretary  
Roxanne Beausoleil, Jose Castillo  
**ABSENT:** Adam Klintworth  
**VACANCY:** three      **GUESTS:** None

## 3. APPROVE MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

VPHPC did not have a quorum for its October 6, 2016 meeting. However, the minutes taken at the meeting that will be approved by the members attended at meeting.

4. **Public Participation on non-agenda items (limit 5 minutes). None.**

5. **Public Participation on agenda items (limit 5 minutes). None.**

## 6. OLD BUSINESS – Discussions:

### *Village Owned Historic Properties – Stewardship Review*

- **Former CAE Station c.1910 – Chamber of Commerce** – no discussion
- **Former CAE Station c.1929 – Historical Museum** –.
- **Former Chicago & Great Western Railroad Station (c. 1926) Improvements**  
Village crew has completed the majority of the project. The kitchen needs to be installed and acquisition of tables and chairs for rental. Landscaping has been completed.

The dedication of Cortesi Memorial Park was well planned by the Village Board & Staff and the VFW. The memorial was relocated and the missile will be installed by the VFW. Summer Concerts were held at this location and were well attended. A Sunday Car Show was organized.

- **Village Hall c.1929** – Nothing to report.

**Old Post-Office Status-** Nothing to report.

**Kenilworth TIF Façade Program Design Review** - The former Ace Hardware store that had been located will become a new Brewery. The front exterior has been removed for the new purpose.

**VPHPC Hosts Landmarks Illinois – Chicago Suburban Alliance Meeting.** Carol thanked Roxanne and Jose for their support at the above meeting. Carol purchased the refreshments.

The meeting was held at the Historical Museum on September 17<sup>th</sup>. Economic Development Director Fiola was the featured speaker and she gave a presentation about TIF in Villa Park and the Façade Improvement program. The audience was engaged and appreciated this information.

Preservationists and planners from the following communities attended this meeting: Evanston, Lake Forest, Highland Park, Oak Park, River Forest, Maywood, Bellwood, Elmhurst, Lombard, Downers Grove, Glen Ellyn, Wheaton, and Decatur. Carol had arranged for a tour of the Ovaltine Court loft, and Frank Carlson gave them a curated tour of the Great Western restoration and Cortesi Memorial Park. Attendees were impressed with what is going on in Villa Park pertaining to new development and enjoyed the tour.

**VPHPC 2017 Preservation Awards.** Homeowners are expressing interest in the 2017 Historical Plaquing program. One homeowner contacted Carol and wanted to know what she could do to her home to qualify for the award. Over the years, the home was sided and several improvements were made that could not qualify. Many people have been using the reference library at the museum to start their research project.

**REDUCE COMMISSION MEMBERS FROM 7 to Five Members.** VPHPC discussed this again. It had been made a motion at a previous meeting when VPHPC had a quorum to do so. Carol had been holding off hoping we could get some new recruits. She will pursue this issue.

**ICE CREAM SOCIAL VOLUNTEERING.** Carol asked VPHPC if they would like to volunteer / attend at the Historical Museum's Ice Cream Social held on July 3rd at 7:00pm. There will be entertainment, vintage cars, and the Park Art Center will be having an patriotic art project for the kids. Wendy Goles, a face painter was hired for the event.

## **PROJECTS / TASKS**

1. **In Process Sponsor Educational / Out Reach Programs**
  - a. (No discussion).
2. **On Hold: VPHPC Contribution towards Museum Reference Library Bookcase Doors**
3. **On hold: Villa Park Subdivision Research**
4. **In Progress: How to Research Your Home.** VPHPC is developing a workshop on how to research your historic home. During the year, VPHPC has completed numerous research requests for many homeowners.
5. **New VPHPC Brochure** – VPHPC discussed creating a simply brochure about what we do.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS DISCUSSIONS**

- A. **Historical Museum – Shelter & Benches.** Village is planning on building an outside shelter on the platform and to purchase several new benches. VPHPC discussed how this large shelter would look against a National Register Historical building. Carol shared the picture of the shelter. The garden area would not be touched. Although the shelter is large, it should not dominate the museum. The color of the steel roof would match the

color of the museum's roofing. The Historical Society had the same concerns but felt that it could be utilized by our residents and could be a new asset for future events.

- B. **Proposed Sears House Demolition.** Carol mentioned that a house on Cornell and Washington will be demolished by St. Paul's Church. It looks like a Sears's house but to be sure, it would have to be inspected. Carol will contact the church to see if VPHPC and VPHS board could tour and inspect the house before it is demolished.
- C. **Halloween Walk – October 29 Old Town Villa Avenue.** Carol mentioned that the Old Town Villa Avenue participating businesses will hold their 2<sup>nd</sup> Halloween Walk. The Judging Contest will be held at 3:00 at Cortesi Memorial Park. C. Assignment of tasks for Sept. VPHPC event with Landmarks IL. Carol is trying to find a location for the meeting. It might be tight at the Historical Museum. She will see if the CGW Depot is available for that day. We will have to provide refreshments for the group.
- D. **Village Staff Resignations.** Erin has resigned her position as the Village Manager's Assistant and Larry has retired from being the IT Director.
- E. Commissioner reports / comments. None.

## **6. BILL PAYMENT / BUDGET**

Carol will need to submit bills for many items.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 9:150 pm.

**The next regular VPHPC meeting will be held at the Villa Park Historical Museum, 220 S. Villa Avenue, and Villa Park at 7:30 PM on Thursday, November 3, 2016.**

Respectfully submitted,

**Carol A. Marcus**  
***VPHPC Chair & Secretary***

*CC: Village President Deborah Bullwinkel, Board of Trustees, Village Manager Rich Keehner Jr., Dave Elliott, Patrick Grill, Jan Fiola, Vydas Juskelis.*