

**ALGONQUIN HISTORIC COMMISSION  
MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING**

**June 12, 2024**

**7:00 PM**

**Held at Historic Village Hall – 2 South Main Street – Algonquin**

**CALL TO ORDER – ESTABLISH QUORUM**

Present: Chairman Lewis and Members Dombrowski, Donahue, Himes, Jolitz, Teuber, and Thompson.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF MAY 8, 2024, AND WORKSHOP MEETINGS OF MAY 18 AND 25, 2024**

Moved Member Jolitz; Seconded Member Dombrowski.

Voice Vote: All Ayes. Minutes Approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT – AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Bob and Judy Shea of 320 S. Harrison offered public comment regarding difficulties they have encountered scheduling a hearing for a Certificate of Appropriateness for certain modifications to the stairs on one of the porches on their home (the Sheas also plan to replace some floor boards on a second porch on their home, but this will be routine maintenance and require no permit). The Sheas would like to add a landing to this porch (consistent with code requirements), in addition to replacing the stairs, railings, and posts. Bob Shea explained that they filled out an application for a Certification of Appropriateness for their landing/stair project in person at the Village Hall window five weeks ago, but after hearing nothing about the application, they inquired about its status and were advised that the application was apparently lost and needed to be refiled. After refiled with the Building Commissioner, Mr. Shea asked that both the Director of Community Development and the Building Commissioner call to update him as to the status of the application, but he has heard nothing since. The Sheas are frustrated about the delay this has caused for their project and the uncertainty regarding the status of their application.

The Commission explained what the Preservation Code would require for their project (e.g., turned spindles and posts), noted some examples in the neighborhood that comply (e.g., 314 Washington Street), suggested some online sources for materials, and encouraged the Sheas to confirm with Village Staff that all required applications for a certificate of appropriateness and/or building permit have been filed and all information required by the Village has been submitted. Chairman Lewis also offered to email the Director of Community Development about the Sheas' application and request that the application be expedited and scheduled for the Commission's July 10 hearing, and that the Sheas be updated as to its status.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Chairman Lewis reported on continued digitalization of historic photos and slides for the Commission database and future digital presentations, including Member Jolitz's previous slide shows and related scripts. Chairman Lewis would also like to update the Commission's "Once Upon a Town" narrative.

Members Donahue, Teuber, and Jolitz reported on installation of the new exhibit for the Commission's display case at the Harnish Library featuring Algonquin restaurants.

Members continued discussion of plans for the Commission's Open House event on September 7-8, 2024, during the Art on the Fox fair on Main Street in Old Town, including displays of potential historic photos and artifacts and a potential flyer/handout for the event.

Members continued discussion of a potential new order for historic identification signs for homes in Old Town, including seeking a new quote for their manufacture and possible means of notifying historic homeowners of the opportunity to order a new/replacement sign. Members also discussed the need for such a historic identification sign on the Philp's Smokehouse located behind Historic Village Hall.

## **APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT**

None.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Members discussed plans for a new exhibit for the Commission's display case at the Main Village Hall featuring "Wearable History," including historic caps, hats, and t-shirts from local clubs and organizations throughout Algonquin's history.

Members discussed potential future plans for Historic Commission events/projects for the year of the USA's 250th anniversary (2026) and inquiring with Village Staff regarding any plans the Village may have for celebrating the anniversary.

Members discussed potential plans for recruitment of new student and/or other Commission volunteers/members, including inquiring with local schools regarding any educational programs requiring community volunteer hours.

## **CORRESPONDENCE, COMMENTS, AND OTHER BUSINESS**

Member Jolitz reported on attendance at the Algonquin Garden Club's rededication of the Blue Star Memorial.

Member Thompson reported that construction on the restoration of the concrete structures at the Historic Mineral Spring site is scheduled to begin on June 13, 2024.

Members were reminded of Commission Workshops on June 15 and 22, 2024.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Member Jolitz moved, and Member Himes seconded, that the meeting be adjourned.  
Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

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Secretary

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Date Approved