



VILLAGE OF WILMETTE
1200 Wilmette Avenue
WILMETTE, ILLINOIS 60091-0040

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
Monday, June 18, 2018
7:00 P.M.

VILLAGE BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM
1200 WILMETTE AVENUE, WILMETTE, ILLINOIS 60091

Members Present: Bob Furniss
Melanie Glass
Joseph Vitu
Christine Harmon
Carmen Corbett

Members Absent: Charles Hutchinson
Michael St. Peter

Staff Present: Kate McManus, Planner II

Guests: Jane Donaldson, 1010 Elmwood Avenue
Shirley Higgins, 204 Ridge Road
Kathy Hussey-Arntson, Wilmette Historical Museum

I. CALL TO ORDER

Acting Chair Glass called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM APRIL 9, 2018

The meeting minutes from April 9, 2018 were approved. Motion by Commissioner Furniss, seconded by Commissioner Harmon and approved unanimously.

III. CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION – 1010 ELMWOOD AVENUE

Ms. McManus introduced the petition for 1010 Elmwood Avenue noting that the Arthur and Ida Southworth House is eligible under Criteria 7 as an outstanding example of a style or period.

In response to a question from Commissioner Harmon, Ms. Donaldson stated that the historic paint color was a light color, but that the color scheme was based on their own preference.

Commissioner Harmon noted the uniqueness of the Sullivan-esque entry surround stating that the detailing is very clear and distinctive.

Ms. McManus stated that the dormer appears to be original based on historic photos.

Ms. Hussey-Arntson confirmed that the historic photos were taken around the time the house was built.

Commissioner Vitu complimented the design of the house.

Commissioner Furniss noted that he was initially concerned with the visibility of the rear addition, but said it does not detract from the significance of the house. He applauded the owners for the restoration of the façade.

Ms. Donaldson explained that it was important to them as the owners to respect the original house and to maintain the streetscape presence. She stated that there are sensitive ways to make historic homes more livable while still retaining the historic character.

Acting Chair Glass asked for public testimony. Ms. Hussey-Arntson expressed her support for the nomination noting that the house is an excellent example of the era and that the owners have lovingly restored the façade.

The Commission unanimously recommended approval of designating the property as a local landmark. Motion to recommend approval by Acting Chair Glass and seconded by Commissioner Vitu.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION – 204 RIDGE ROAD

Ms. McManus introduced the petition for 204 Ridge Road noting that the Bartholomew and Veronica Hoffmann House, is nominated as a local landmark under Criteria 4 – Link with a significant person, Criteria 5 – Architecture characteristic of social, economic or political heritage and Criteria 7 – Outstanding example of a style or period. She stated that the nomination applies only to the house and not to the other outbuildings on the site. She stated that local landmark designation is based on the applicable criteria and a building's architectural integrity. She added that a portion of the property is located in Evanston.

Commissioner Furniss stated that the property is known for a previously run nursery. He stated that the history is very interesting and he was unaware of the ties to Native Americans.

Ms. Hussey-Arntson noted that Christmas trees are still sold on the lot.

In response to a question from Commissioner Harmon, Ms. Higgins confirmed that she grew up in the home and has lived there her whole life.

In response to a question from Commissioner Furniss, Ms. Higgins said that the family cemetery is located at the north end of the lot and that there are no markers. She noted that it was where a log cabin was previously located.

Ms. Hussey-Arntson explained that the museum and Newberry Library have letters from the family dating back to the 1850s.

Ms. Higgins discussed her family's history and noted that the interior of the house is also intact.

In response to a question from Commissioner Harmon, Ms. Hussey-Arntson stated that the home is located in an area of Gross Point and the Hoffmann's were early settlers who settled in the area right after the Native Americans left. She added that the Hoffmann settlement predates the Village of Wilmette.

Ms. Higgins spoke about how the family obtained the house from the other heirs.

The Commission unanimously recommended approval of designating the property as a local landmark. Motion to recommend approval by Commissioner Furniss and seconded by Commissioner Corbett.

V. SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES REPORT

Ms. McManus informed the Commission that the Village's Engineering and Public Works Department has restored all the streets within the Ouilmette North Historic District back to brick.

She provided an update on the Stran-Steel House, 2105 Chestnut, stating that the developer found someone interested in moving the house to Michigan.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Ms. McManus stated that there is no update on the potential interior landmark designation discussed at the previous meeting.

She stated that the Preservation Awards were held in May and asked for any ideas and suggestions from the Commission for next year. Commissioner Corbett suggested more media coverage. Commissioner Harmon volunteered to help with publicity for next year's event.

Ms. McManus and Acting Chair Glass discussed updating an informational brochure on local landmarking.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 7:37 p.m. by Acting Chair Glass and seconded by Commissioner Harmon and approved unanimously. Scheduling of the next meeting date was postponed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kate McManus