

**ALGONQUIN HISTORIC COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2017  
7:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER - ESTABLISH QUORUM**

Present: Chairman Jolitz and Members Himes, Lewis, Purn, Thompson, and Zange.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 9, 2017 AND  
WORKSHOP MINUTES OF AUGUST 19 AND 26, 2017**

Moved: Member Zange; Seconded: Member Lewis.

Voice Vote: All Ayes. Minutes Approved.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR CONSIDERATION OF A MAJOR IMPROVEMENT IN THE  
OLD TOWN DISTRICT – Case No. PC-17-06, 315 LA FOX RIVER DRIVE FOR  
HOUSE AND GARAGE FOUNDATION REPAIRS.**

Call to Order - Present: Chairman Jolitz and Members Himes, Lewis, Purn, and Zange.

**VILLAGE STAFF PRESENTATION:**

Chairman Jolitz presented the case on behalf of Ben Mason for the Village. Chairman Jolitz explained that Patty Jo Thompson, property owner, has applied for a Certificate of Appropriateness for house and garage foundation repairs on the property in question. The property is located on La Fox River Drive, between Madison and Washington Streets.

The property owner is proposing to re-surface the foundation of the home with a stone veneer material, similar to what would have been on the house historically. The new stone veneer will be applied over the top of the existing stucco, and a stone sill approximately 2¼ inches tall and 2½ inches deep will be incorporated as a transition between the foundation and siding. The west, north, and northeast corner foundation walls of the garage will also be re-surfaced with a stone veneer and sill to match the house. Petitioner is considering three stone veneer designs; and spec sheets and photos of the proposed sill and stone designs are attached to the Petitioner's application and have been distributed to the Commission Members.

Recommendation: Staff believes that the proposed foundation repairs will enhance the appearance of the home and garage and are consistent with the Preservation Code. Staff therefore, recommends approval of the Certificate of Appropriateness with the following condition: the property owner shall have the option of selecting from any of the three proposed fieldstone designs: New England Fieldstone; Split Fieldstone; or Aspen.

#### **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM PETITIONER:**

None.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None.

#### **COMMISSION DISCUSSION:**

Chairman Jolitz explained that Petitioner is free to choose the color and design of stone to be used, as the Commission does not rule on such things as color choices. But suggested Petitioner walk around her neighborhood as see foundation stone shapes and colors typical of what was used in Algonquin in the early days and at about the time her home was built.

#### **MOTION:**

Motion by Member Himes to recommend that the Building Commissioner issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for Case No. PC-17-06 for foundation repairs on the home and garage located at 315 La Fox River Drive, consistent with the Petitioner's submittal and the conditions listed in the September 13, 2017 Village Staff memorandum. Seconded by Member Lewis. Voice Vote: All Ayes, except Member Thompson (the Petitioner) who was recused.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Historic/Vintage Structure Identification Signs Mailing: Chairman Jolitz reported on the mailing of applications to purchase the new vintage structure identification signs being offered to Old Town District residents prepared by Commission Members at the last Commission workshop in August. Chairman Jolitz and Member Purn also reported on residents of the Old Town District who have responded to this mailing and applied to purchase signs for their vintage properties, and noted that many of these applicants are purchasing such signs for the first time. The deadline for mailing such applications is 9/30/2017, and the applications and payments are being collected by Ben Mason.

Scout Troop visits to HVH in September & October: These visits will take place during the Commission workshops on 9/23 and 10/28/2017 during 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. time slots. It presently appears that one troop is signed up for each time slot on 10/28.

#### **APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT:**

None.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Commission Exhibits in Library and Village Hall Display Cases: New exhibits are needed for each display case. The Commission will give thought to possible display ideas at upcoming workshops.

Historic Commission Member Vacancy: Patty Jo Thompson is (sadly) leaving the Commission (this is her last monthly meeting), which leaves the Commission with two vacancies (one of which may be filled by a non-resident). The Commission will be seeking to recruit new members through various avenues during the coming months.

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

Chairman Jolitz circulated information regarding the upcoming fall meeting of the Joint Council of Historic Groups on Wednesday September 20, 2017, starting with a tour of the Former Orchard Beach Hotel, 1812 Riverside Drive, McHenry. This meeting will feature a tour of this former hotel, turned destination spot before it is sold. Commission Members will coordinate regarding attendance.

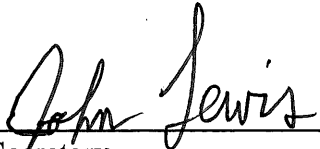
Member Purn reported on a letter received from Brett Davidson offering to sell some books about the Geister family, which Member Purn is interested in purchasing for his personal research. Member Purn also reported on various historic artifacts that he has also acquired for his personal collection in recent weeks.

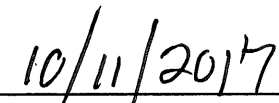
Member Purn also reported on a meeting he had with Ben Mason and Kevin Crook of Village staff regarding possible storage by the Village of databases of historic information and photos that Member Purn has compiled over the years.

Chairman Jolitz and Member Purn also discussed recent donations from Diana Wood, formerly of Re/Max Realty, as she cleans out her offices at 101 South Main Street. The Commission Members discussed donating some of these items, specifically a set of McHenry County Plat Books to the McHenry County Historical Society in Union as the books are very large and we are very tight on space, and especially since these pertain more to McHenry County in general than just Algonquin.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Member Thompson moved, and Member Lewis seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. Voice Vote: All Ayes. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

  
Secretary

  
Date Approved