

## Florence Township Heritage Preservation Commission

June 21, 2011

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm, at the Wakandiota Park shelter

Present: Art Hamilton, Brad Stone, Kerby Rigelman, Bill Flies, Brian Schreiber Vern Genzlinger, Mike Blair, Virginia Oliver, Janet Bruce, Judy Johnson, Peggy Knudsen, Laurie Hodgson, Char Henn

A notice for tonight's special time and location were posted on the Town Hall in compliance with our bylaws.

Bill welcomed the Planning Commission members to the meeting. They will be working with the HPC on the Park Plan for the Old Frontenac historic district. They will coordinate their efforts with ours in managing the parkland in designated historic districts.

Art Hamilton expressed his concern regarding the presentation and voting on three Design and Review Applications submitted at our May meeting. Art was concerned that HPC members had both submitted and then voted on their own DRA's. Although the concern is valid, all DRA's would have carried if each member who submitted a DRA would not have voted on their respective DRA. The HPC will avoid this practice in the future and members will not vote on motions that affects them personally as defined in Roberts Rules of Order.

The minutes from the May 17<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved.

Town Board Report. Bill observed that most of the HPC members had been to the May Town Board meeting and in the interests of time did not present the minutes since all had heard them directly.

The Christ Church website is now operational. The HPC is a member of the Christ Church Old Frontenac Preservation Partners and will pursue the state for Legacy Grants and will be contacting a church in Wabasha to learn how they recently received State funds.

Florence Town Hall. The Planning Commission is now considering whether or not the Town Hall should become a Historic District. Judy Johnson from the Friends of the Town Hall, expressed enthusiasm for moving forward with the process. The initiative must be approved by the HPC, the Florence Township Planning Commission, the Florence Township Board of Supervisors, the State Historical Preservation Office, and a public meeting must approve a new district before it becomes official.

Preservation Day will be planned after the completion of the Christ Church roof restoration.

We discussed Buckthorn in our parks and the possibility of hosting Township-wide events in Frontenac to generate community spirit and enthusiasm for maintaining all of our Township's parks. Events could include a Labor Day picnic and Walking Tours of Old Frontenac.

We discussed how it would be helpful if the HPC, the Planning Commission, the Town Board, and the Friends of the Town Hall would send representatives to one another's meetings.

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Jan Bruce discussed the Goodhue County Silica mine issue and commented that Silica mining would threaten our delicate ecosystem in this area, create a significant blemish on our scenic areas, and compromise the historic integrity of our Township and County.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.