

Florence Township Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC)  
Tuesday, January 15, 2008 meeting minutes (pending final HPC Board approval)

Call to order:

Chair B. Flies called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Members present: Clay Ruggles, Char Henn, Joyce Engstrom, Bill Flies, and Dan Staker.

Secretary Report: The minutes of the November 20, 2007 meeting were approved as posted.

Treasurer's Report: Bill reported that the HPC's checking account had a \$560.49 current balance and with \$1,000.00 pending from Township HPC budget balance. The pending balance is \$1,560.49.

As of January 11, 2007 Park's balance was \$9,585.94 with an estimated pending net accounts of negative \$5,200.00-consisting of the following projections:

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 1) Estimated Township Park Budget balance                   | \$2,000   |
| 2) Estimate of Survey Costs of Wakondiota Park              | (\$3,200) |
| 3) Estimate of cost associated with Valhalla Vista services | (\$3,000) |
| 4) Estimate of park cleanup fuel and expenses               | (\$ 250)  |
| 5) Estimated cost of marker posts & cement                  | (\$ 750)  |
| Parks pending net accounts                                  | (\$5,200) |

This makes the projected parks balance in all accounts \$4,385.94

The Treasurer's report with the above balances was approved and accepted.

Town Board Meeting: Clay Ruggles, Township Supervisor, had nothing to report from the December 2007 town board meeting.

Design Review Applications:

Bill Laidlaw (trustee) and Sister Rose of Villa Maria presented to the board a proposed re-plat of approximately 10 acres of land that lies north of the Villa between Winona and Wood Street and is bordered on the East by County 2. A sixty-six foot wide ingress road named Villa Avenue Way is proposed for the westerly edge of the property with a cul-de-sac or vehicle turn-around placed at the northerly end of the proposed street. The proposal is a re-plating of this property into three lots of; 2.81, 2.56, and 3.61 acres respectively to be offered for a future sale. This property does fall within the boundaries of the historic district and is currently zoned as R-1, meaning each lot will be restricted to a single-family dwelling. The HPC board expressed concern that although it may initially be sold as a single lot a future owner may attempt to further subdivide an individual lot. The board asked that, if legally possibly, covenants or deed restrictions be placed in the deed to insure that further subdivision will not happen. We also asked that they might include phrasing in the deed to insure that a "buffered" area is maintained adjacent to existing roads (County 2,

Winona, and Wood Street) and that proposed structure placement be sensitive to neighboring sight lines. The Villa Maria, being almost next door neighbors to these properties, expressed the same concerns and plans, if possible, that the new individual deeds contain such restrictions.

The re-platting request with the expressed concerns so noted was approved.

Completed Projects: None to report.

Active Projects:

- Outstanding DRA's
  - Villa Angela DRA: Nothing to report.
  - Chateau Frontenac: Torrens Registration in process.
- Clay - Filling open HPC board positions: no new applications but may bring a prospective candidate to next meeting.
- Andrea - Book Distribution: none
- Andrea - Bench sponsorships
  - There is now one available bench sponsorship remaining.
- Park Survey and placing of markers – Brandon King presented the board with a proposal to survey the centerline of vacated Cathcart Avenue and a portion of Lot F. This is to determine and mark the property line on the westerly edge of the Wakondiota Park starting near the red barn on the Knudsen property on County Rd 2 paralleling Westervelt Ave. His proposal was to complete the work for a price of \$3,200 and based on the most recent quote of \$3900 on the same project one year ago and the fact his price was for winter work, a slower season for him as was the previous quote, we approved his contract for the work. He will commence with the work within the next two weeks.
- Valhalla Vistas - Valhalla Vistas program will begin with the help of a professional forester by the identifying of trees to either be topped or removed. Board members Clay, Bill, and Dan along with Old Frontenac resident, Jay Kouchich will perform the tree cutting work that does not involve the climbing of trees. Bill Webster, a resident on Garrard Avenue favorably affected by the improvement of vistas, has offered to offset a portion of the costs incurred. His offer of \$500 dollars will be used to replant less tall trees to replace the areas affected by the removal.
- Park management: Clay has made notable progress clearing the buckthorn from the southerly end of Vahalla Park.
- Joyce - Park shelter upgrade: Chairman Flies presented a computer generated rendering of what could be done to the existing structure with an integration of an Interpretive Center. He feels that there is a possibility of obtaining a CLG grant for

part of the work if we incorporate the Interpretive Center. Including a display highlighting the various Frontenac historic assets would enhance chances of an approval with CLG grant committee (see Heritage Assets Management topic below under **New Business**.) He stressed that his computer rendering should serve as an jumping off point in the shelter upgrade and would encourage other HPC board members and also residents of Old Frontenac community to put forth their own ideas/designs.

- Walking Tour Brochure: Work to be postponed until later this winter.

#### New Business:

- Budget Committee: Chairman Flies will email to each board member a copy of the 2009 HPC's and Park's proposed and asked that each review and suggest changes.
- Parks supervisor position: The Township Board will "job post" a parks supervisor position with duties to include the cleanup and maintenance in the Frontenac parks including the Frontenac beach area. The park supervisor will report to the HPC board chairman for work direction. The posting will be placed in the Lake City Shopper.
- Active Committee review: Reviewed the various existing committees and proposed certain additional committees including Frontenac Remembered Book, Historic Properties Individual Plans, Budget Committee, and Preservation Day Committee.
- Heritage Assets Management: Chairman Flies presented a list titled the "Frontenac Remembered Idea List." It lists by category some of the Frontenac heritage "assets". He proposed that we can enlarge upon these by researching stories that speaks to the history of such assets. We could incorporate these stories into the Interpretive Center by displaying these stories including pictures and text.

Planned Absences: Dan Staker for Feb 2008 meeting.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Next HPC Meeting: February 19 2008

Respectfully submitted,  
Secretary, Dan Staker

Please inform me of any corrections or additions