

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**ALTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
**Tuesday, February 17, 2015, at 7:00 p.m.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Doug Bader, Mary Anderson, Matt Asselmeier, Monica Mason, Diane Plummer

**ABSENT:** Jonas Janek and Tom Edelmann

**Others:** Debbie Beck, Secretary

The meeting of the Alton Historical Commission was called to order by Chairman Doug Bader on Tuesday, February 17, 2015, at 7:04 pm.

After reading the minutes of February 3, 2015, Diane Plummer moved to accept the minutes for February 3, 2015, as written. Mary Anderson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**APPLICATIONS:**

The house at 821 Alby was the applicant on the agenda for this meeting; however, the applicant was not present. Doug Bader tabled the application for 30 minutes to give the applicant time to make the meeting. At 7:35 Bader turned the meeting back over to the new business, the 821 Alby application. However, the applicant was not present. Bader stated that he wanted the record to reflect that there was no one in the audience for 821 Alby's application. The application and pictures for 821 Alby were then discussed with the applicant in absentia.

Monica Mason made the motion to deny the application until someone could come before the commission and explain the entire scope of work that was happening at the address of 821 Alby St. Mary Anderson seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Doug Bader tasked Matt Asselmeier to prepare a letter to send to the applicant and explain why their application had been denied. Bader also tasked Asselmeier with sending a Building and Zoning inspector by the address, to ensure that there is no work being done there.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Energy Efficiency Seminar Update – Matt Asselmeier stated that Erin Newman, of the EPA, is out of the office until February 18, 2015, so he would not have any new information from her until then. Asselmeier stated that he thinks a structure has been found for the blower door test. He stated that it would not be Haskell House or Hart House. He stated that Haskell House was too large a property and that Hart House had a different reason for not being used. He stated that there is a vacant residence at 1122 Washington, a property owned by Jeff Dale. He stated that the commission would need to pick a date, pick a speaker and then we can go from there. He stated that the hands on portion of the seminar would be for the Historic Commission and the Cool Cities Commission. He stated that invitations should be issued to the aldermen and women, the Mayor, Alton Main Street Preservation Committee, Alton Area Landmarks, North Alton-Godfrey Business Council and Upper Alton Association. This hands on portion would take place during the day and that a condensed version of it would take place in the evening for the public portion. He stated that the evening portion should last approximately two hours. A few of the places suggested for the evening portion were City Hall, Riverbender, The Old Bakery and the multi-function room at Alton Square. Exploration of the venue will take place after the date for the seminar has been set and the number of speakers is known. A discussion then ensued reference the marketing for the public attendance, which would possibly be press releases and mailers to be sent to each household.

Update on the CLG Grant: Matt Asselmeier stated that he had just received a preliminary notification on Friday, February 13, 2015, that The City of Alton was going to receive \$8,400. This grant is not for expanding the historical

district, it is to re-survey the current homes and new pictures of those homes. He stated that they were going to have to contact the two professional services who had bid for the job.

Awards Update – During the last meeting it was suggested that the Preservation category have two sub-categories, a new proposal was suggested that would resolve the issue of whether there was a need for two sub categories. The suggestion is worded as following:

1. PRESERVATION – For historically sensitive rehabilitation, renovation, or restoration of an entire building, or important architectural features of a building.

There were also suggestions for changed or wording on the following two categories:

4. STEWARDSHIP - For an individual who has shown long term dedication towards an architecturally, or historically important building.
5. SURVIVOR – For restoration of a building, or structure damaged by a natural calamity, such as a by storm or fire.

A motion was made by Monica Mason to adopt the categories with the changes. Matt Asselmeier seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Potential nominees were then discussed.

A discussion then ensued reference a press release. It was decided that Matt Asselmeier's e-mail address for Development and Housing would be used for nominations from the public.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Matt Asselmeier wanted to remind everyone about the e-mail that he sent reference a webinar for Evaluating Replacement Windows. Doug Bader encouraged everyone to participate.

There being no further discussion or comments from the public, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie J. Beck  
Secretary.