

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
ALTON HISTORIC COMMISSION
Tuesday July 7th, 2015, at 8:00am**

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

ABSENT: Jonas Janek

The meeting of the Alton Historic Commission was called to order by Chairman Doug Bader at 8:00 am July 7th, 2015.

Monica Mason moved to accept the minutes as presented from June 16th, 2015. Mary Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

APPLICATIONS:

The applicants for **410 Prospect Street** were not present, therefore the application was tabled.

HISTORIC COMMISSION AWARDS LOGISTICS:

Doug Bader spoke with Mayor Walker about the quantity of awards to be given (22) necessitating the Historic Commission awards ceremony be split between two meetings of the Alton City Council. Therefore, the Historic Commission awards will be presented on the following dates, Wednesday, August 26th and Wednesday September 9th. The various awards will be placed into two groups; the "Preservation Awards" and the colloquial "Everything Else Awards", which includes various award categories such as "Painting Awards", "Stewardship Awards", "Survivor Awards" and others.

Research by commissioner Mary Anderson revealed two options for framing the award certificates. The first option was a wood frame priced at approximately \$5-6. per unit. The second option, a sleek black frame with an attractive faux silver embellishment was made from synthetic materials, and was priced at a modest \$1. per unit. With 22 awards certificates to frame, the commissioners wisely chose the more cost effective option number two.

Mary Anderson will purchase the frames. Commissioners will each reimburse Mary \$5.

On August 1st, 2015, an official letter will be sent to the Historic Commission awards recipients. The letter will offer congratulatory greetings and acknowledge each recipient's award category. Recipients will be informed as to time/date of the awards ceremony.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT OF THE IHPA CONFERENCE:

Commissioners Mary Anderson, Monica Mason and Diane Plummer attended the IHPA Conference in Carbondale and shared their impressions. All three commissioners spoke of the recurring message from the presenters as to adaptive re-use of existing historic structures as an economic driver. Commissioner Diane Plummer attended seminars relating to practices applicable to marketing historic properties. Commissioner Monica Mason spoke of presenter Ed McMahan's discussion of modern Place Making strategies which emphasize authenticity through capitalization on existing assets, whether natural or architectural. Mr. Mc Mahon advocated for adaptive re-use of existing architecture for both small local business and for larger franchise businesses as well. All three commissioners were impressed with Mr. Mc Mahon's presentation.

The commissioners also spoke positively about the renovation of the historic Lincoln Hotel in neighboring Murphysboro. When completed, this historic hotel will provide both regular hotel rooms and budget friendly hostel type accommodations for bicyclist tourism generated by a nearby trail.

Commissioner Mason also reported that the "Three Minute Success Story" she presented regarding the recent fund raising campaign and renovation of the Lucy Haskell Playhouse was well received by IHPA conference attendees.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40am.

Respectfully submitted,
Monica Mason, Commissioner
Alton Historic Commission

Monica Mason