

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
ALTON HISTORIC COMMISSION
Tuesday, September 15, 2015 at 7:00 pm**

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

The meeting of the Alton Historic Commission was called to order by Doug Bader at 7:00 pm on September 15, 2015.

Mary Anderson moved to accept the minutes as presented from the September 1, 2015 meeting. Monica Mason seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

APPLICATIONS:

The commission took up the application for **601 State St.** Bill Moyer, of Moyer Construction, took the floor for the owner, James Dodd. Moyer stated that the owner of this residence was cognizant of the historical importance of this property because, during the civil war, the warden for the prison camp stayed at this residence. He stated that they were going to remove and replace the front porch. The owner had replaced all of the aforementioned area approximately six years ago, but the contractor used soft pine, which is now rotting. Moyer stated they are going to use vinyl composite for the steps and railing and wood around the door. The corner posts on the porch have a slight pyramid on top. The tread will be a beige color; the frame work around the deck, the railing, and the risers will be white.

Monica Mason made a motion to accept the application as presented. Matt Asselmeier seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The commission then took up the application for **704 Euclid.** The owner Grant Harner took the floor to present this application. Harner stated that he has already removed the previous back porch and flat top roof. Harner stated that he planned on extending the back porch to square off with the lines of the house. He stated that he will add a hip roof to match the house roof lines. He stated, if he was able, he would like to put a new roof over the whole house. He stated that the railing on the back porch and the lattice would be the same style and colors as on the front porch, but proportionate in size.

Mary Anderson made a motion to accept the application as discussed. Monica Mason seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

HISTORIC COMMISSION AWARDS:

Doug Bader wanted to report on the second presentation of award certificates. He stated that it went much smoother using the 8 x 10 photos. He stated that before and after photos were provided on some of the properties and this made a huge impression with everyone present. Bader stated that he thought it would be beneficial if we could have before and after photographs for the awards next year.

HOUSE INVENTORY PHOTOS:

No new information at this time.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Doug Bader stated that the House Tour of historic homes is on October 11th and reminded the commissioners that he needed \$20 from each of them for the ad to be placed in the brochure.

Matt Asselmeier stated that he has been in touch with Matt Bivens, the Historic Preservation Director for Lafser & Associates, via e-mail. He stated that Bivens is on schedule at this time with the photographing and cards. Asselmeier stated that a public hearing should be done with Bivens sometime before spring. Bivens deadline is September of 2016.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Bill Moyer questioned the commission on why more of the downtown area isn't in the Historic District. He stated the businesses would then be eligible for the federal tax credit. Doug Bader explained how the historic district could not be imposed on residents. The residents would need to request the change. Also, the federal tax credit that Moyer was talking about is for commercial use only, not residential. It was later discussed that Matt Bivens had stated in the April meeting that the historic district could be expanded. At the time the historic commission was created in 1974, some of the properties in the historic districts did not meet the criteria of a historic property, but now they would. It was also stated that, through the federal guidelines, if the district was to be expanded, it would depend on how the expansion went. If it was to be expanded as parcel by parcel, then the property owner of each parcel would have to agree to be recognized as a historic property. If it was to be expanded as a district, then the majority of the property owners would need to agree. It was also discussed that the City of Alton did not have the money at this time to pursue an expansion.

There being no further discussion or comments from the public, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie J. Beck
Secretary