

**MOLINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**  
**MINUES OF THE MEETING**  
**Monday August 12, 2013 at 4:00 p.m**  
**Council Chambers**

<b>COMMISSION MEMBER</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
Jolene Keeney	X	
Craig Mack	X	
Dan Mizner	X	
Scott Perkins	X	
Curtis Roseman	X	
Barbara Sandberg	X	
Pat Burke - Staff	X	

Commission Chair Barbara Sandberg called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Introduction of Guests: Adam Holland, new Main Street Director, and Chris Hayes

Mr. Holland reported that he is pleased to be part of Moline’s Main Street program, which is now administered by the Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce under contract from the City of Moline. He is particularly interested in downtown historic properties.

A motion to approve the minutes of the July meeting by Commissioner Mack (Mizner second) was made and approved.

Reports:

Pat Burke offered several reports: He noted that the City of Moline has agreed to work with Western Illinois University-Quad Cities on the move of the DRI&NW depot to the WIU campus. No timetable has been set for the move. He said that asbestos and lead paint remediation has been completed on the Sears Warehouse-Amtrak depot and that the City is still working with potential developers for renovation and utilization of the upper floors. The new Barrel House restaurant, which has opened in the Berglund Building, has retained the original tin ceiling. A Barley and Rye restaurant is to open across the street in the Phillips Lofts on September 1. Burke also reported no new developments on the potential hotel project at the Davis Building/Collectors Center.

Sandberg noted that the Moline Park Board may apply for a grant to fund the replacement or repair of the historic Sylvan Island wagon bridge and that the Carnegie Library building is still empty and listed for sale. She will invite the owners of the building to the September Commission meeting.

Sandberg presented before and after photographs of fifteen murals in Kewanee, Illinois, that were painted as a recent “Wall Dog” project. The Wall Dogs are a national group of mural painters that donate their time and talent painting historic murals in cities across the United States. She believes a project like this might be appropriate for downtown Moline.

Sandberg also presented photographs of the Main Street fire damage taken when she visited Prophetstown showing piles of rubble where once stood 1880’s era commercial buildings.

## Old Business:

Commissioner Keeney reported that the John Deere House owner hopes to resolve the conflict with a neighbor over access to the driveway. She also reported no change in the status of the 12<sup>th</sup> Street wall adjacent to the house. The City has notified property owner Roger Colmark that the wall remains his responsibility and that he must make the repairs.

Sandberg has read the Belgium Bluff historic district documentation prepared by Rebecca Gall. It is available to other Commission members with Dan Mizner taking the copy this month. She noted that the Olde Towne business district landscape is not as well maintained as it might be with tall weeds growing in the cracks near the buildings and in the street corner bump-outs. She also reported that the Main Street Design Committee, which oversees façade improvements in downtown, Uptown, Olde Towne, and Avenue of the Cities, is looking for another member. She added that the Illinois Historic Property Tax Assessment Freeze Program is on hold awaiting information from Springfield. She has contacted artist Bill Gustafson who will investigate alternative ways to protect the downtown City of Mills mural.

The proposed date for the City Hall centennial celebration, October 19, 2013, has not been confirmed by the City. With the new security system in place, interior tours may be limited.

## New Business:

Burke reported that the post fire damage renovation of the 1845 Birdsell Building should be completed within a couple of months

Sandberg recommended that the Commission be proactive in advocating appropriate reuses of Garfield and Ericsson Schools, which are to be closed in 2014. She recommended that the Commission seek technical assistance from the Landmarks Illinois organization that is currently working with a number of cities experiencing school closing. .

A vacancy still exists on the Historic Preservation Commission; hopefully a recommendation will be given to the mayor soon.

## Announcements

The Flemish Fest will be held Sunday September 15<sup>th</sup> at Steven's Park.

Keeney reported that the Arp house on 16<sup>th</sup> Street, a former Bed and Breakfast, is being renovated.

Commissioner Perkins noted that Orion, Illinois, recently celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its band shell, which has been renovated.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:13 p.m.; the next meeting will be on September 9, 2013

Respectfully submitted, August 20, 2013: Curtis C. Roseman