

MEETING MINUTES  
CITY OF HIGHLAND HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
LOUIS LATZER MEMORIAL LIBRARY, 1001 9<sup>TH</sup> STREET, HIGHLAND, IL  
MONDAY, MAY 24, 2023  
6:30PM

**CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL:**

Officers:	Present	Absent
Jacob W. Rose – Chairperson	X	
Jeff Menz – Secretary	X	
Sara Knobloch	X	
Joe Garson	X	
Sarah Finley	X	

**MINUTES:**

Motion – Approve Minutes of the February 27, 2023 Historical Commission Meeting  
Motion passed by roll call voice vote.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

Anyone with anything to address the Historical Commission may do so at this time.

- One guest in attendance: Fred Groves.

**REPORTS:**

1) Historic Properties Reports

- Latzer Homestead –
  - Installation of new roof that is “appearance compliant” is scheduled for later this summer. Photos taken for posterity.
- Kaeser Park –
  - This is the next location scheduled for application for National Registry. The old creek bridge is scheduled for removal this summer. Parts of the building were tuckpointed. Fred Groves is coordinating with contractors to trim trees that overhang buildings on site.
- City Hall Bell Tower-
  - Fred Grove said the finial on the bell tower is scheduled for removal on June 27. He is working on a replacement. The City of Highland will be responsible for moving the tower to its new location across from the City Hall. Date not yet determined for the move.
  - There was concern expressed for the new flower pots due to freezing.
- Suppiger House sidewalk-
  - The new owner of the home is interested in having a retaining border installed along the front sidewalk in order to prevent future covering of the sidewalk with dirt.
  - Tentative installation date of June 17 with a backup date of July 8.
  - Fred Groves will take a look at the site before work is begun.

- Do we need ADA considerations on this old historic sidewalk?
- 1000 Laurel Street (the old Marx Brothers building).
  - No discussion.
- 1014 Laurel Street (old Journal Printing / Appel building).
  - No discussion.
- 2) Highland Historic Commission Guidelines Manual and Preservation Plan
  - Currently on hold.
- 3) Landmarks Committee (A Highland Historical Society Committee) (Commission Auxiliary)
  - Digital Archive Website
    - The developer is running behind.
  - SIUE Successful Collaborative Program
    - This is running long and an extension is granted.
    - No changes since last meeting.
  - Mexican-American War cannon.
    - Looking for a grant to pay for the removal and reuniting of the cannonballs with the cannon.
  - Workers' Progress Mural.
    - Look for a source of money for mural restoration, in the neighborhood of \$50,000. The Historic Preservation Office (Illinois) may be a good resource for restoration.
    - Mural once restored will be installed above the library's front desk of the Louis Latzer Memorial Library.
- 4) Historic Building Inventory.
  - Photo project of historic buildings is scheduled for Saturday, May 6
  - Need a list of properties to photograph.
  - Photos will be exterior, front views of the properties as well as detailing interesting architecture and lot placement.
  - Karen Mason to send a copy of photos from the Historical Society Self Tour.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- The Founders Area near the top of the hill of the City Cemetery is experiencing erosion and damage to headstones. Attempts to clean old limestone headstones with bleach causes damage. The State of Illinois has conservation programs for headstones. The anthropology department at Southern Illinois University – Edwardsville and their students could help out with proper cleaning procedures. We may want to include the Highland Cemetery Board before proceeding.
- Ordinance frequency of meetings. This body currently meets every third month. We proposed an increase in the meeting frequency to every other month. The proposal was to meet the fourth Tuesday of every other month. We would need approval of the City of Highland before initiating the increased frequency. Motion made by Rose, second by Sara K, and approved by roll call vote. Proposed to meet

July 25<sup>th</sup> once approved. If not approved, meet on the regularly scheduled August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

- We invite Highland City Council members to attend our meetings.

Motion to adjourn:

Motion carried by roll call voice vote.

Adjournment made at 7:43pm.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

NEXT MEETING DATE – Tuesday, July 25, 2023 at 6:30pm (if approved by city council) or Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 6:30pm (if not approved) at Louis Latzer Public Library, basement classroom. Anyone requiring accommodations, provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), to attend this public meeting, please contact Dylan Stock, ADA Coordinator (618-654-7115).