

**Riverside Historical Commission
Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 18, 2020**

Call to order: 7:01 PM by Chairperson Constance Guardi via telephone conferencing.

Present: Commissioners Constance Guardi, Diane Ceragioli, James Petrzilka, Richard Julian, Patrick Smith-Ray, and Samantha Schroeder.

Minutes of February 17, 2020: Motion to approve by Samantha Schroeder. Seconded by James Petrzilka. Motion carried.

Financial Report of April 30, 2019: Balance of \$75,758. Year to date expenditures of \$459.72. Year to date revenue of \$1,107.17. Motion to approve by Diane Ceragioli. Seconded by Patrick Smith-Ray. Motion carried.

Chairperson's Report:

- Covid-19 pandemic has Interrupted our mission to open the Museum on Saturdays. The Museum has been closed for the last ten Saturdays. We do not know when we will be able to safely open again. Social distancing is a challenge in our small space. We will develop new safety guidelines before opening to the public.
- Connie thanked Richard for regularly going into the Museum to respond to Voice mails and e-mails.
- The Olmstead Society is working on solutions to the issues that Social Distancing is creating for their TOUR Program. It has been suggested that they recommend the "Self-guided tour of the First Division", which can be found on the Museum's website www.riversidemuseum.net. Some problems, with the website, were brought to Connie's attention. She is working with Karin Johns, of the Village Office, to resolve them.
- Next meeting, on June 15, will probably a telephone-conferencing session.

Accessions: No accessions February through April. Commissioners have been asked to only take highly significant accessions at this time.

Exhibits:

- No changes have been made.

Continuing Business:

- 2020 Museum wall calendar: It was questioned whether to proceed with a calendar, because patrons might not purchase them with them due to the pandemic financial issues. The Commissioners decided to proceed. The theme for the calendar will be "recreation in Riverside". Samantha will research our collection to ensure that a good selection of photos is available, and report back at the June Meeting.

- Facebook: More photos have been added, and the site is getting a lot of hits. Richard will post some “flooding of the Past” photos.
- Landmarking a house: Patrick has written the application for the Preservation Commission. He will visit the Cook County Recorder of Deeds, as soon as it is possible with the pandemic, to verify his research.
- Past Perfect: We have a quote from HTC Print Group to digitize our Structure Files and our Local History files. The \$3,262.50 price is within our annual budget. We will not pursue the matching grant from the Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board, which contains a lot of restrictions and requirements. Past Perfect’s online set-up charges and annual fee are also within our budget, and will allow public access to a selection from our Museum Collection. The Commission voted to proceed with the HTC Print Group proposal and the Past Perfect On-line upgrade.
- Volunteer Program: No change in status.
- Website: The on-line Village Tour software will become obsolete later this year. Connie will discuss options with the company that services our website.
- Disposition of the bones excavated on Bloomingbank Road: James called Professor Barta in Detroit. Their lab was able to retrieve DNA from the specimens; however, the college is closed due to the pandemic. More lab time is required to complete the analysis work on age and ancestry.
- Plan for 2020: No update in status.
- Bill Sherman Memorial Fund: No update in status.

New Business:

- Commissioners will sign-up, via e-mail, for Saturday Museum duty for 6/6/20 through 9/12/20. Closed 7/4/20. Reopening date to be determined.
- Patrick suggested that items related to the pandemic be added to the Museum Collection.

Adjournment: Diane Ceragioli motioned to adjourn at 7:42 PM. Seconded: Patrick Smith-Ray. Motion carried.