



Village of Riverside Preservation Commission  
Regular Meeting – August 10, 2023  
Meeting Minutes

*I. Call to Order*

A regular meeting of the Village of Riverside Preservation Commission was held on Thursday, August 10, 2023. Chairperson Pipal called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

*II. Roll Call:*

*Present:* Chairperson Charles Pipal  
Commissioner Sander Kaplan  
Commissioner Thomas Walsh  
Commissioner Matthew Seymour

*Absent:* Commissioner Kapil Khanna  
Commissioner Michael Leary  
Commissioner Gint Lietuvninkas

*Also Present:* Village Planner Anne Cyran

*III. Approval of the Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes:*

3.1 – Approval of the April 13, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Kaplan made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Commissioner Walsh seconded the motion.

AYES: Commissioners Kaplan, Seymour, and Walsh, and Chairperson Pipal.

NAYS: None.

Motion passed 4-0.

3.2 – Approval of the June 8, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Kaplan made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Commissioner Seymour seconded the motion.

AYES: Commissioners Kaplan, Seymour, and Walsh, and Chairperson Pipal.

NAYS: None.

Motion passed 4-0.

IV. *New Business:*

4.1 – Application for a Hardscape Permit for 193 Longcommon Rd

Public Works Director Tabb briefly reviewed the elements of the application. A couple of months ago, Public Works was notified a tree in the Village-owned parkway was cut down and turned into a decorative pole. The homeowner, Ed Wilkowski, was not aware the tree was on Village-owned property. The homeowner would like to keep the pole in its current location and sought a hardscape permit to allow it to remain. The Preservation Commission and Landscape Advisory Committee's recommendations will be provided to the Village Board, which will ultimately decide whether to permit the pole. If the Board does not approve the pole, the Village will cut the pole down. If the Board approves the pole, it can remain as it is until it becomes a safety hazard, at which point the Village will remove it.

Mr. Wilkowski said the tree was damaged during the storm last June, and the top of the tree was torn off. After removing the dead portion of the tree, he hired someone to carve the tree. He noted the pole is 21 feet away from the sidewalk.

Director Tabb noted the Landscape Advisory Committee recommended the pole be removed from the parkway.

Chairperson Pipal said he considered this different than someone installing something new in the right-of-way, and that this wasn't likely to set a precedent. Commissioner Walsh agreed, and said that this wouldn't affect the Village's landmark designation. Commissioner Seymour agreed.

Commissioner Kaplan disagreed and said this shouldn't become a precedent in the right-of-way. He noted that Olmsted's vision was to keep the rights-of-way natural.

Commissioner Seymour made a motion that the Preservation Commission's recommendation is that permit application would not have an adverse effect on Riverside's Historic Landmark designation. Commissioner Walsh amended the motion to add that the Preservation Commission recommend that the decorative pole be moved to the applicant's property. Commissioner Seymour accepted the amendment. Commissioner Kaplan seconded Commissioner Seymour's amended motion.

AYES: Commissioners Seymour and Walsh, and Chairperson Pipal.

NAYS: Kaplan.

Motion passed 3-1.

4.2 – Section 106 Consulting Party Comment Request from IDOT Regarding ADA Improvements at the Southwest Corner of Des Plaines Avenue and 31st Street and the Southeast and Southwest Corners of West 26th Street at Westover Avenue

Director Tabb noted that the Village requires cast-iron detectable warning plates because the Village Board did not like the appearance of the plastic warning plates. For previous IDOT sidewalk projects, the Village has required IDOT to install exposed aggregate sidewalk.

The Commissioners noted the proposed sidewalk retaining curb is the type that they do not like.

Commissioner Walsh moved that as long as the sidewalks have an exposed aggregate finish, cast iron detectable warning surfaces are used, and the project does not use sidewalk retaining curbs, the proposed project will not have an adverse effect on the Village's Historic Landmark designation. Seconded by Commissioner Seymour.

AYES: Commissioners Kaplan, Seymour, and Walsh, and Chairperson Pipal.

NAYS: None.

Motion passed 4-0.

V. *Staff Updates:*  
None.

VI. *Adjournment*  
Commissioner Walsh moved to adjourn and Commissioner Kaplan seconded. Motion approved 4-0.

Chairperson Pipal declared the meeting adjourned at 7:39 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Anne Cyran, Village Planner

Approved on October 12, 2023.