



**Historic Preservation Commission**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, May 19, 2025**

**6:30 p.m. at Village Hall**

**200 N. River Street · Montgomery, IL 60538**

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**I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

All Present gave Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. Roll Call**

Absent: Chomiak, Johnson, Aman

Present: Albright, Buchanan, Lee, Webster, Larson

Also present: Director of Community Development Sonya Abt, Tom Yakaitis, Trustee Brzoska

**III. Approval of Minutes of the Historic Preservation Commission of April 21, 2025**

Commissioner Lee motioned to approve the April 21, 2025 minutes.

Commissioner Buchanan seconded the motion.

Voice vote: All Ayes.

**IV. Items for Separate Action**

No items to discuss.

**V. Items for Discussion**

**a. HPC Events 2025:**

**i. Historic Downtown Walk (June 7)**

The times were finalized for 10 AM to Noon. Commissioner Buchanan noted she would need to update the script since one of the structures was just demolished. The Commissioners requested a copy of the script ahead of the walk so they could review. Director Abt stated she would email it to the Commission once it was finalized. Commissioner Buchanan suggested the volunteers arrive about 15 minutes early.

ii. Car Show (Aug 16)

The Commissioners stated it was time to start distributing flyers. Commissioner Buchanan suggested printing out about 200 copies. The commission also suggested handing out flyers at Senior Lunch.

Commissioner Buchanan and Director Abt stated they would work on emailing mailing past participants with this year's flyer. The Commission also discussed recruiting judges ahead of the next meeting.

Director Abt noted that the flyer has been finalized and is on the webpage, Wurst Kitchen has been confirmed, the sponsor/car corral vendor packets were sent out.

Director Abt also brought up the VFW Friday Car Show. She informed the Commissioners that the VFW now wants to do a car and motorcycle show rather than just a motorcycle show on the Friday before the HPC Car Show. She stated the Village has reached out and asked them to reconsider since the Car Show is a major fundraiser for the HPC. The Commissioners stated the VFW Car Show was different and would most likely not impact their Car Show and said to not worry about it if they want to do a car show.

iii. Cemetery Walk (Oct 1)

Commissioner Buchanan stated they were still identifying historical figures. It was suggested that since it was the 100 year anniversary of Lion Concrete that perhaps one of their ancestors could be highlighted.

iv. Other outreach opportunities to have Settler's Cottage open

Director Abt stated that Street Eats Food Truck Festival was back on; it would be on Saturday June 28<sup>th</sup>. The Commissioners thought it would be a good idea to have the Cottage open for a portion of that day. Director Abt also stated there would be two Concerts in the Park this year, July 17 and September 18. The Commissioners agreed to try being open for **½ hour to an hour before the concert begins**. Director Abt stated she would email the Commission to sign up for volunteering at the cabin those days once she had start and end times.

b. Settlers Cottage Repairs Update

Director Abt stated that the repairs have been completed. Commissioner Buchanan suggested the HPC consider giving a gift card to the carpenter as a thank you for his time since he did not charge the Village for his services. Giving a donation to Dickson Murst Farm in his honor was also suggested.

Commissioner Lee motioned to donate \$100 to Dickson Murst Farm in the carpenter's name. Commissioner Buchanan seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: All Ayes

The Commission also suggested nominating him for Volunteer of the Year.

c. Settlers Cottage Museum Displays

The Commissioners discussed the All Steel display and creating a workday the following week to clean the cottage and finish the display before the Downtown Walk.

d. Riverside Cemetery Repairs

Director Abt stated she could not find any open grants for cemetery headstone repairs. She stated she would reach out to her preservation contacts and see if they had any recommendations on companies that do headstone restorations and repairs and would report back at the next meeting.

e. Family Certificate Program

Director Abt stated the website had been updated and the certificates had been finalized. The Commissioners suggested highlighting the program in the Village Newsletter.

VI. Next Meeting: July 21<sup>st</sup>

VII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 PM