



**McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission**  
c/o McHenry County Dept. of Planning & Development  
2200 North Seminary - Woodstock, IL 60098  
815 - 334 - 4560

The following meetings of the McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the McHenry County Government Center- Administration Building, 667 Ware Road, Woodstock, IL unless otherwise posted.

December 7, 2005

January 11, 2006

February 1, 2006

**FILED**  
McHENRY COUNTY, IL  
OCT 13 2005

*Katharine C. Schultz*  
COUNTY CLERK

OCT 14 2005

**MEETING March 1, 2006 CANCELLED**

April 5, 2006

May 3, 2006

June 7, 2006

July 12, 2006

**MEETING August 2, 2006 CANCELLED**

September 6, 2006

October 4, 2006

November 1, 2006

**MCHENRY COUNTY  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES  
JANUARY 11, 2006**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Dave Stack, Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Dave Gervais, Gloria Mack, David Stack, Gail Drabant, Bonnie Duresa

Absent: Denise Collins, Aimee Collins

Staff: Maryanne Wanaski and Audrey Martin

Guests: Alan Stebbins, Don Frick, Tim Hardon, Dorothy Scherschel and Nick Chirikos

A motion was made by Gloria Mack, seconded by Mr. Gervais to suspend the agenda's order to allow the guests to speak. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Hardon, Chairman of the Woodstock Historic Preservation Commission, explained that the State Preservation Agency might consider the City of Woodstock for its 2007 meeting location if issues, such as the number of available hotel rooms, could accommodate conference needs. Basically the Landmarks Preservation Council of Illinois (LPCI), the organization that runs the statewide conference, requires lodging for about 200-250 people. Mr. Hardon stated Woodstock had a total of 79 hotel rooms and mentioned that the Crystal Lake Holiday Inn would be willing to block 150 rooms thus, totaling 290 rooms region- wide. Initial screening for sites will begin at the end of February 2006.

Mr. Hardon remarked on the luncheon, another issue. District 200 is willing to utilize their common area at the high school for the luncheon and they could also provide catering. However, the availability of the high school common area is contingent on the number of snow "make-up" days which could prove an obstacle.

If Woodstock is chosen, a steering committee would be formed with local representatives. Average conference expenses run about \$25,000; LPCI pays for most of the costs with the balance solicited from local organizations and vendors.

The reason for tonight's attendance was to ask the Commission for financial help and support. Mr. Harden would like to go before the Woodstock City Council knowing the County HPC fully supports this effort. The Woodstock City Council meeting will be held on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2006 and the conference will be held the first week in June, 2007. If the Council approves, they will need a resolution of support from the Commission. Nancy Baker, who works for the Woodstock Planning Department, will be the contact person.

Mr. Gervais suggested that he and Ms. Mack attend the City Council meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Drabant, seconded by Ms. Mack to entertain a resolution directing staff to support the Woodstock Historic Preservation Commission in their quest to host the 2007 State Wide Historic Preservation Conference. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Gervais, seconded by Mr. Stack directing staff to take the resolution to the Planning and Development Committee. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Ms. Mack, seconded by Mr. Gervais to approve the November 11, 2005 meeting minutes. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. Due to a lack of a quorum at the December meeting, no minutes for December were recorded.

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Motion by Mr. Stack, seconded by Ms. Drabant to nominate Ms. Denise Collins to the position of Chairperson. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Ms. Drabant, seconded by Ms. Mack to nominate Mr. Stack to the position of secretary. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Gervais, seconded by Ms. Drabant to nominate Ms. Mack to the position of Vice Chairman. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

There were no other nominations. Mr. Stack closed the nominations and called for a voting of the slate. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

### **SURVEY**

Mr. Dave Stack submitted his year-end report to Ms. Wanaski. Mr. Stack's year-end report summarized the following:

- a public hearing will be scheduled for the Trout Valley submittal
- the McHenry Drive-In submittal was denied. It was determined the drive-in is more nostalgic than historic.

Motion by Ms. Drabant, seconded by Mr. Gervais that the Trout Valley Application be set for public hearing and move forward at the February 1st 2006, Commission meeting. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. Staff will publish the legal and notify appropriate parties as required by ordinance.

### **ENDANGERED SITES**

Mr. Stack stated Ms. Collins will appoint someone to this position since it is currently vacant.

### **RURAL INTENSIVE SURVEY**

The Rural Intensive survey is on hold.

### **MUNICIPAL LIAISON**

Ms. Mack submitted her comments in writing and they are attached. She included both December and January in her report.

The Allendale Road Bridge was discussed. Ms. Mack was not sure if the bridge had been annexed to Greenwood. Ms. Wanaski said she would check. If the bridge is annexed we would lose jurisdiction unless we enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the Village. Ms. Wanaski will check with the Highway Department to see if she can get any further information.

Ms. Mack and Mr. Gervais handed in their year-end reports to Ms. Wanaski.

Mr. Gervais said had spoken potential applicant to fill the Commission vacancies. They are Tip Hale and Bill Blye. They both need applications. Mr. Blye is with the McHenry County States Attorney. He owns a one-room school house. He may need permission to join the Commission since he is a government employee.

Motion by Ms. Drabant, seconded by Mr. Gervais to forward McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission applications to Mr. Hale and Mr. Blye. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

### **COMMUNICATIONS / EDUCATION**

No Report.

### **SCENIC ROADS**

No Report. Ms. Duresa handed her year-end report to Ms. Wanaski. Ms. Wanaski handed Ms. Duresa scenic road stickers of the Commission's copyright for the scenic road signs that do not have the copyright notice. Ms. Duresa pointed out Algonquin does not have their signs up. Nick Chirikos volunteered to

contact Mr. Bob Miller, Algonquin Township's Road Commissioner and ask him to contact Mr. Ganek, the Village's Administrator.

**STAFF**

No Report

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Gervais will get together with Ms. Mack to work on the State Preservation Conference.

Two issues that will be brought to the Planning and Development Committee:

1. The State Preservation Conference
2. New Historic Preservation Commission members

An Agenda item will be added for Ms. Collins to make her appointments.

Ms. Wanaski briefly explained to Ms. Scherschel and Mr. Chirikos how the Commission operates.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

Motion by Ms. Mack, seconded by Ms. Duresa to adjourn. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

**MCHENRY COUNTY  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 1, 2006**

**ROLL CALL**

Meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Denise Collins, Dave Gervais, Gloria Mack, David Stack, Gail Drabant, Bonnie Duresa, Aimee Collins.

Staff: Maryanne Wanaski and Audrey Martin

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ms. Duresa had a spelling correction on the last page under Old Business. Under election of officers, Mr. Stack nominated Ms. Collins as the Chairperson, Mr. Gervais as the Vice Chairperson and Gloria Mack as Secretary. This motion was seconded. When asked if there were any other nominations, Mr. Gervais noted he was under the impression Ms. Mack was going to be the Vice Chairperson and he was going to be the Secretary. Mr. Gervais then nominated Ms. Mack as the Vice Chairperson, seconded by Ms. Drabant. Ms. Drabant nominated Mr. Gervais as Secretary, seconded by Ms. Mack. This clarification was inadvertently left out of the minutes.

Motion by Ms. Drabant, seconded by Mr. Gervais to approve the minutes of January 11th, 2006 with corrections. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Ms. Collins stated she is working with Ms. Mack on the tree program. She has sent an e-mail to Ms. Hildebrandt and has made calls to the Morton Arboretum but has not received a response.

**RURAL INTENSIVE SURVEY**

The survey is on hold.

**ENDANGERED SITES**

No Report.

Ms. Drabant suggested a certificate of appreciation and a cover letter from staff be sent to Carrie Koster-Horan thanking her for her work on the Commission.

Motion by Ms. Drabant, seconded by Mr. Gervais to send an appreciation certificate, signed by the Commission and SuzAnne Ehardt, to Carrie Koster-Horan. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

### **MUNICIPAL LIAISON**

Ms. Mack submitted her comments in writing and they are attached. She received a Scenic Road and Streets application for Pioneer Road and forwarded it to Ms. Duresa. She is also forwarding a Scenic Roads application to the residents of Flemming Road and will keep the Commission informed on the progress.

### **JOINT COUNCIL**

The Joint Council of Historic Groups meeting will be held at TC Industries on March 22. The program for the evening will be an idea workshop. Members will be notified by e-mail for the meeting.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Ms. Collins stated the web site is still being accessed as of three weeks ago. Ms. Drabant noted she has been hearing from people that have seen the web site and they are saying it was easy to find. Ms. Collins said she has not received anything from her request from the state agency to have a link to the Commission' site. She said she has given thought to including the Commission forms on the site. They are currently in PDF format and not everyone can download them, so she will put them also in text format.

The new issue of the Gazette is finished. The next issue will be the spring issue out in May. Ms. Wanaski suggested putting information about spring festivals or rituals in the next issue. Ms. Collins told the Commission she would like to have some brainstorming sessions to get some new ideas going.

### **SCENIC STREETS AND ROADS**

No Report.

Ms. Amiee Collins informed the Commission the Powers Walker House addition is looking very good and has a new roof.

### **STAFF**

Ms. Wanaski received an application from Hamilton Hale Jr. who is applying to the Commission. He will be invited to the next meeting. When Ms. Scherschel and Mr. Chirikos applications are approved, the Commission's roster will have one vacancy .

Ms. Wanaski also received a submission packet for a new tower project on State Park Road. Mr. Stack will do the write up.

There was a discussion on the Allendale Bridge. According to the County Highway Department, if Greenwood has incorporated both sides of the road, they own the bridge. Planning and Development has not been notified of any annexation to date. Ms. Wanaski will check with Mr. Chuck Marke on the status of any annexations in that area. Ms. Collins spoke with Nancy Fike and she encouraged the Commission to stand firm because it is a landmark.

Mr. Gervais suggested making a motion to have a representative from the Commission attend the Village of Greenwood meetings to let them know the Commission's stand on the bridge.

Motion by Mr. Gervais, seconded by Ms. Duresa to appoint Ms. Mack to attend a Greenwood Township meeting to explain the McHenry County Historic Preservation Commissions position on the Allendale Bridge. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

#### Discussion:

Mr. Gervais said his preference would be to move the bridge to the McHenry County Conservation District, but they do not want it. Ms. Mack said public safety should take precedence over historic precedence and the bridge is in bad shape. Ms. Drabant stated moving the bridge may not work and she would like to consider alternatives of how it could still remain in the future in that location. Ms. Aimee Collins stated going to the Greenwood Township meetings is a good idea and she likes the idea of a public relations blitz. Ms. Denise Collins said the Commission needs to stand firm on a position and if there is a way to preserve the bridge we should dig our heels in.

Ms. Collins said she would like to see the bridge stay where it is. We would allow for a cosmetic revamping of the bridge if that's what it takes. If the bridge has to be improved because of safety issues, we have to go along with that. Ms. Collins recommended Ms. Mack ask Ms. Nancy Fike to accompany her to the meeting.

Ms. Mack will call and get on the next agenda. The position of the Commission is to try and make sure the bridge stays where it is and make the necessary repairs on it so that it will be safe.

Motion by Mr. Gervais, seconded by Mr. Stack that Ms. Mack be instructed to inform The Village of Greenwood the bridge should be saved and kept at its present site.

Mr. Gervais requested a vote by roll call.

Ms. Drabant: Aye, Ms. Duresa: Aye, Mr. Stack: Aye, Mr. Gervais: Nay, Ms. Collins: Aye, Ms. Mack: Aye. Motion carried.



**NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Gervais said the Commission needs to impress upon new members to attend all meetings or call if they are not able to attend.

**OLD BUSINESS**

The review of the HPC Ordinance, planned rules and procedures needs to be done. It was suggested before doing that, the Commission wait for a full roster. The review will be tabled until then.

Ms. Collins asked everyone to think about the brainstorming session. She said to think of the work the Commission has done, think of ideas and put them in writing for the Commission to discuss. This will be added as an agenda item next month.

Motion by Mr. Gervais, seconded by Ms. Mack to adjourn. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

**McHenry County**  
**Historic Preservation Commission *Tentative* Agenda**  
**Wednesday, March, 1, 2006**

CALL TO ORDER:

ROLL CALL:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

REPORT BY CHAIRPERSON:

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

I. SURVEY:

*Special Projects*

Endangered Sites

Rural Intensive Survey: Tabled until Spring

II. MUNICIPAL LIAISON

*Special Projects*

Joint Council

III. COMMUNICATIONS

*Special Projects*

Website

IV. EDUCATION

*Special Projects*

Publication: *Gazette*

V. SCENIC STREETS/ROADS:

REPORT FROM MCCD:

REPORT FROM PLANNING STAFF: Annual Report approval

NEW BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS: Tabled: Review of the Commission's *Ordinance/Plan/Rules & Procedures*

ADJOURNMENT

**MCHENRY COUNTY  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES  
APRIL 5, 2006**

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Denise Collins, Gail Drabant, Gloria Mack, Aimee Collins, Bonnie Duresa, Nick Chirikos, Dorothy Scherschel and David Stack

Not Present: David Gervais

Staff: Maryanne Wanaski and Audrey Martin

Guest: Hamilton Hale

Chairperson Denise Collins called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Ms. Drabant, seconded by Ms. Mack to approve the minutes from the February 1, 2006 Historic Preservation Commission meeting. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

No Report.

**STANDING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

- Survey: Gail Drabant
- Endangered Sites: Nick Chirikos
- Municipal Liaison: Gloria Mack and David Gervais
- Scenic Streets and Roads: Bonnie Duresa
- Communications:
  - Web Site: Denise Collins and Nick Chirikos
  - Gazette: Denise Collins

Mr. Chirikos asked the Commission if they have jurisdiction over any site in the County. It was answered the Commission has jurisdiction over their landmarks or anything that comes to the attention of the Commission. Mr. Chirikos read in the paper about an old school that was destroyed in Huntley. The article is attached to these minutes. The owner of the building had been in touch with the Huntley Historical Commission, but the demolition of the building had already been scheduled. Mr. Chirikos said he feels the Commission should have some type of force of action so these kinds of things don't happen.

It was explained the Commission can only do so much. If the owner of the property has no interest, there is not much that can be done.

### **MUNICIPAL LIASION**

Ms. Mack submitted written comments and they are attached. She distributed the comments she had prepared for the cancelled meeting on March 1st and read through them. Ms. Mack then read through the comments prepared for the present meeting. After she read the comments, it was noted there are two major events occurring in Local History Month.

### **REPORT FROM MCCD**

Aimee Collins stated she will be leaving the Historic Preservation Commission to pursue other interests. She is working on a replacement liaison. Ms. Collins asked Ms. Drabant, who is employed at McHenry County Conservation District, if she would like to replace her. Ms. Drabant offered to give reports to the Commission until the position is filled, but she does not want to replace Ms. Collins because that would mean giving up her voting rights.

### **SCENIC STREETS AND ROADS**

Ms. Duresa submitted comments in writing and they are attached. Ms Duresa went over the comments with the Commission. She recommended the Pioneer Road nomination be approved by the Commission.

Motion by Ms. Drabant, seconded by Mr. Stack to nominate Pioneer Road as a scenic drive.

Discussion: Ms. Wanaski inquired as to the distance of the road in miles. The road is 4.5 miles. There are six signs that will be put along the road. The signs will be installed by Ed Mars who is the Richmond Township road commissioner. Ms. Duresa informed the Commission this is Scenic Drive number 5.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

### **REPORT FROM STAFF**

Ms. Wanaski informed the Commission that the grant for the next phase of the McHenry County Rural Survey was denied. It was decided the Commission needs to revamp on how they will continue the survey. The letter from the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency is attached to these minutes.

It was noted a photo and a plaque needs to be ordered for the Hertz (Trout Valley Stonegate Entrance) landmarking.

Ms. Wanaski distributed the McHenry County Historic Preservation Annual Report to the Commission. Ms. Drabant commended Ms. Wanaski for all of her hard work on the report.

Motion by Ms. Drabant, seconded by Mr. Stack to approved the McHenry County Historic Preservation Annual Report. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Ms. Wanaski had the Commission sign certificates of appreciation, one to Carrie Koster-Horan for all her past work on the Commission and one for Mr. Matthew Perrone Jr. for his contribution for his contribution to gain our copy write for the scenic roads. These will be mailed this week.

Ms. Wanaski informed the Commission of a LPCI Workshop on building materials for historic buildings which is going to be held in Chicago. If anyone of the members would like to go they should let her know.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Ms. Denise Collins stated the website is getting up to 600 hits a month. She mentioned to Mr. Chirikos, who is a member of the Barn Preservation Association, that the Barn Preservation link has received hits off of the site as well.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

The discussion of the review of the Commission's Ordinance/Plan/Rules and Procedures will be tabled again. Ms. Collins said she would like to have a brainstorming session and discuss this at that session. After some discussion, the brainstorming session is scheduled for May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30 p.m. (an hour and a half) before the regularly scheduled meeting.

Ms. Collins mentioned she had been in contact with the Morton Arboretum and there is a way to have new oak and hickory trees planted in new developments. She will get information to Ms. Wanaski. She also mentioned the civil war graves in Marengo have been found.

Ms. Drabant noted name tags will need to be ordered for the new Commission members. Business cards will also be printed.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Motion by Ms. Mack, seconded by Ms. Drabant, to forward Hamilton Hale's McHenry County Historic Preservation application to the Planning and Development Committee. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Chirkos stated he has a conflict with the Trout Valley dedication ceremony being held on May 20th. The Barn Preservation Association is putting on its 1st Annual Preservation Workshop at McHenry County College on the same day. Ms. Drabant said she would be representing the Commission at the workshop. Some of the Commission will attend the Trout Valley dedication, while others will attend the barn workshop.

Mr. Stack said this would be his last meeting. He is hoping to come back to the Commission in the future. Mr. Stack passed his survey paperwork over to Ms. Drabant.

Motion by Mr. Chirkos, seconded by Ms. Drabant to adjourn. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

**MCHENRY COUNTY  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES  
MAY 3, 2006**

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Denise Collins, Gail Drabant, Gloria Mack, Nick Chirikos, Dorothy Scherschel, Tip Hamilton and David Gervais

Not Present: Bonnie Duresa

Staff: Maryanne Wanaski and Audrey Martin

Chairperson Denise Collins called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Ms.Drabant, seconded by Ms. Mack to approve the minutes from the April 5, 2006 Historic Preservation Commission meeting with the following corrections:

- Under "Report from Staff", add the Commission thanked Mr. Matthew Perone for his contribution and help obtaining a copyright for the scenic roads signage.
- Under "Communications", add 600 hits per month.
- Under "Old Business", add the civil war graves have been found in Marengo.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

No report.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Ms. Collins submitted her comments in writing and they are attached.

Ms. Collins mentioned there was some trouble with the Historic Preservation web site. She stated she was only able to access McHenry County Fair information but that has been resolved.

On average, in the month of April, there were 548 guests to the web site. 24% of downloads were for the nomination form. Even though there have been downloads, the Commission has only received one nomination. Mr. Hale inquired if there was a way people could actually apply online through an interactive

form. Ms. Collins said she would look into an interactive form. Ms. Collins added that she updated the site with the new commissioners' names.

The Gazette is highlighting local history month and includes information on the Pioneer Road dedication on May 7th and the landmarking of the Trout Valley Stone gate entrance on May 20th.

### **REPORT FROM MCCD**

Ms. Gail Drabant informed the Commission that MCCD is having a conference Friday, May 5th on oak trees. She will pass on any information from that conference.

The Powers Walker House is having an ice cream social on June 11 from noon to four.

### **SURVEY**

Ms. Drabant said an application for the Kennedy Way Station has been received but more information is required such as a survey and other data to make the application complete.

A woman who owns one of the storefront buildings in downtown Johnsborg called Maryanne and was interested in landmarking the site. Ms. Drabant and Ms. Mack completed a site survey of the property and stated it would probably not qualify for the standards per ordinance requirements. The building has a false front, and the interior has been changed. Siding has also been installed. Even though the owners want to replace widows and take the siding off, Ms. Mack feels the house is too far gone. During restoration, the building was sandblasted. In summary, there is not enough historic integrity remaining to satisfy requirements at this point, but the Commission applauds the owners for trying to restore the structure.

Mr. Chirikos asked if there was something in print that states what proper restoration would consist of. Ms. Wanaski distributed the Department of Interiors Standards for Rehabilitation.

Asked by Ms. Wanaski, Ms. Drabant called Donna Britton from the Huntley Historical Preservation Commission regarding an old schoolhouse that was converted into a duplex. Used as a schoolhouse from 1875 to 1956, the building is being sold to the First Congregational Church who is rumored to be thinking about tearing it down. The new Huntley Commission is also experiencing political growing pains. Ms. Mack suggested they work closely with City Council members.



## **MUNICIPAL LIAISON**

Ms. Mack submitted her comments in writing and they are attached. In regards to Trout Valley, Ms. Wanaski said the plaque for the entrance gate should arrive by May 12th.

## **SCENIC STREETS AND ROADS**

Ms. Bonnie Duresa was not present at the meeting but she did pass along her report to Ms. Dorothy Scherschel and it is attached to these minutes. Ms. Scherschel distributed copies of the Pioneer Road Dedication Ceremony program.

Ms. Wanaski mentioned she received a call from a lady who lives in the Moorings in Arlington Heights. Her family dedicated property to MCCD and she is going to try to attend the Pioneer Road Dedication. She stated she had a lot of history that she could share.

## **REPORT FROM STAFF**

Ms. Wanaski handed a copy of the roster to the Commission members to add additional information. Ms. Wanaski said Mr. Tip Hale's application had been approved by the County Board to serve on the Commission. Ms. Wanaski also distributed copies of the Historic Preservation Commission Rules and Procedures and a copy of the state statute that deals with historic preservation.

Mr. Chuck Marke sent an e-mail to Ms. Wanaski about the Windhill Farm (John James House) on County Club Road which will soon be incorporated into the Village of Bull Valley. Some of the Commission members were under the impression that we had an all encompassing intergovernmental agreement, but Ms. Wanaski confirmed the agreement is only for the Holcombville School.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

There was discussion regarding standardizing the brochure for future scenic road programs or having a template for the programs so a new program would not have to be created for each new road dedication.

There will be new certificates of appreciation created for Mr. Dave Stack, Ms. Randi Rewoldt, and Ms. Aimee Collins for their contributions to the Commission.

There was discussion of scheduling the brainstorming session in July. Ms. Mack suggested including Nancy Fike, Ders Anderson, and Ed Collins in the session. Ms. Collins agreed guests would be a good idea. It was decided to hold the brainstorming session on July 15th at 11:00 a.m. at the MCCD's Prairie View facility. The address is 2112 Behan Rd, Crystal Lake. The phone number is 815-479-5779.

Motion by Ms. Collins, seconded by Mr. Gervais to have the Historic Preservation budget fund the lunch for the session. A Roll call vote was taken as follows: Ms. Drabant: Aye, Mr. Gervais: Aye, Ms. Collins: Aye, Ms. Mack: Aye, Ms. Scherschel: Aye, Mr. Chirikos, Aye, and Mr. Hale: Aye. Motion carried.

Ms. Wanaski handed Ms. Collins an informational paper titled how to research an old house. Ms. Collins will enhance the flyer so can be distributed in the Planning and Development Department.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Gervais mentioned the Bylaws still need to be reviewed. It was decided this was something that could be discussed at the brainstorming session in July.

Motion by Ms. Drabant, seconded by Mr. Chirikos to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25.

**MCHENRY COUNTY  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES  
JUNE 7, 2006**

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Gloria Mack, Denise Collins, Gail Drabant, Bonnie Duresa, David Gervais, Dorothy Scherschel and Nick Chirikos

Not Present: Tip Hamilton.

Staff: Maryanne Wanaski and Audrey Martin

Guest: Tim Kane, Chicago Tribune

Chairperson Denise Collins called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ms. Gail Drabant noted under Survey Committee on page 2, *weigh station* should be spelled *way station*. Under new business, *Dures Anderson* should be spelled *Ders*.

Motion by Ms. Drabant, seconded by Ms. Collins to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2006 meeting as corrected. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Ms. Collins stated the scenic road designation of Pioneer Road was very well attended. She gave the ceremony speech which is attached to these minutes.

Ms. Collins said she received several phone calls regarding tree trimming that was being done on Pioneer Road after the designation. Ms. Collins made some phone calls and was told the tree trimming would be done as sensitively as possible.

**SURVEY**

Ms. Drabant submitted her comments in writing and they are attached. She will be going to Camp Algonquin on Tuesday, June 13 at noon to document and evaluate sheds that are slated for demolition.

Mr. Chirikos said he attended the McHenry Farm Bureau meeting that included The McHenry County Historical Association and groups from Marengo regarding the River Road round barn. The barn is believed to be one of the oldest round

barns in Illinois and it's in danger of collapsing. It has suffered neglect over the past 5-8 years and the owners are incapable of maintaining it. It was suggested the Barn Association act as a liaison with MCCD as a possible agency to purchase or put up money for the barn if there is a use for reconstruction. At the present time, the barn is privately owned. The owners may be willing to donate the barn to a not-for-profit group.

Mr. Chirikos was hoping the Commission could do something as a group to help. Several people suggested the Barn Association become the owner. Ms. Drabant suggested they contact the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency in Springfield.

### **MUNICIPAL LIAISON:**

Ms. Mack submitted her comments in writing and they are attached. The designation for Pioneer Road, the Trout Valley stone gate entrance designation, the Allendale Bridge and the Greenwood Village Board meeting were discussed.

Mr. Gervais spoke with Shirley Beene about nominating Trout Valley as an historic district. Ms. Beene said she will discuss the matter with Mayor Robert Baker and keep the Commission updated.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Ms. Collins submitted her comments in writing and they are attached. She stated she is currently updating the web site. The new Commissioners have been added. Weekly graphs were past out to the Commissioners' for review that show the number of "hits"/visits to the Commission's web page and also what areas / information visitors are most interested in.

### **EDUCATION**

Regarding the Gazette, Ms. Collins stated that people are taking advantage of the Gazette being online. The next edition will be ready next month. Ms. Collins informed the Commissioners she is taking suggestions for this issue and reminded everyone the target reading age for the publication is approximately 12 years old.

Ms. Collins is gathering information to put together an ancient tree recognition program. Mr. Chirikos asked about ordinances regarding trees. Ms. Wanaski stated the County is looking into putting some type of tree preservation requirement in the subdivision ordinance which is presently being updated.

### **SCENIC STREETS AND ROADS**

Ms. Duresa had no report. The Commission went over the samples of the scenic road program that Chuck Marke put together. A prototype will be done and included with the minutes

Ms. Collins asked if the new logo could be put on their business cards. Ms. Drabant will take the lead on that.

**REPORT FROM STAFF**

Ms. Wanaski stated the Preservation Conference in Will County will be held on the 17<sup>th</sup> of June. If anyone is interested, there is still time to register.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Ms. Collins asked Ms. Wanaski to notify the Administrative Office there is one vacancy on the Commission and to request the County advertise.

Motion by Mr. Gervais, seconded by Ms. Duresa to adjourn. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:16. p.m.

## **McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission**

### **June 2006 Monthly Report – Denise Collins**

#### **Report From The Chair:**

*Gloria and I attended the Pioneer Road Scenic Road designation early last month. Despite the intensity of the afternoon sun, the event was well attended with many neighbors and local political figures stopping by. We also had several people bring antique vehicles and tractors. A charming local Brownie troop was kind enough to act as color guard to present the flag and lead the Pledge of Allegiance. I welcomed all guests and gave the opening speech with a brief history of Pioneer Road. Afterward, we walked down the road en mass to uncover the new designation sign and take pictures. I did not attend the neighborhood get together that was scheduled after the ceremony. I received several phone calls from concerned citizens regarding the tree trimming on Pioneer Road since the Scenic Road designation. I made a few calls and was told they would try to do this necessary work as sensitively as possible.*

*Gloria, Dave, Gail, Nick and I also attended the Trout Valley Gate Landmark designation ceremony where I gave the welcoming introductions. The event had a small gathering of Trout Valley neighbors and guests. Mr. and Mrs. Beene had seen to the lovely bunting hanging on the gate and decorations in the community center building.*

*I received an email requesting help with historic research being done at the Algonquin Library. The request asked we go through our inventory of historic items in search of a diary. I wrote back explaining that we do not have such an inventory and suggested they contact the county historical society.*

#### **Communications:**

*I am currently updating the McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission website. We have a lot of new information to add! The Trout Valley Stone Gate will be added to the Landmark Slideshow and Pioneer Road will join the ranks of our Scenic Roads list. The names of this year's three new commissioners have already been added. The Webmaster's weekly graphs show steady public interest. On average, hits for one week's time come to approximately 44.3 visitor a day.*

*The most requested downloads each day for one week are as follows:*

[5 downloads - McHenry County Comprehensive Landmark List](#)

[5 downloads – Landmark Program flier](#)

[5 downloads – Scenic Roads Nomination Form](#)

[4 downloads – Endangered Sites Submission Form](#)

[4 downloads – The Roots of Historic Preservation](#)

[4 downloads – Historic Landmark Nomination Form](#)

[All other downloads – Various Gazette Issues](#)

#### **Education – Gazette**

*Web graphs show that visitors are taking advantage of the downloadable issues. The 2006 Summer Gazette will be out next month. I am currently taking suggestions or short articles for this and all future issues. Please remember our target age for this family publication is the same for any county newspaper; they are written for readers approximately 12 years old.*

#### **Special Projects: The Centurion Oak project**

*I am in the process of gathering more information to put together an ancient tree recognition program. My goal is to give a presentation sometime in 2006. I am unable to attend the Tree Preservation Forum on June 10<sup>th</sup> but do have a backup person to share information with me. As far as I can tell, the idea for a tree ordinance is not new to the collar counties of Chicago. Hopefully we will gain information to help with our tree recognition program as well as supply the county with enough info to get a McHenry County tree ordinance up and running.*

*Respectfully Submitted*

*Denise Collins*

**Chair, McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission**

**Note: in place of regular July 12<sup>th</sup> meeting**

**McHenry County  
Historic Preservation Commission Agenda**

**Saturday, July 15**

**MCCD**

**Prairieview Education Center**

**2112 Behan Road**

**Crystal Lake, IL**

**11:00 am**

**—REGULAR BUSINESS AGENDA SUSPENDED—**

CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

REPORT BY CHAIRPERSON: Denise Collins

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- I. SURVEY: Gail Drabant  
*Special Projects*  
Endangered Sites: Nick Chirikos  
Rural Intensive Survey: Tabled
- II. MUNICIPAL LIAISON: David Gervais, Gloria Mack  
*Special Projects*  
Joint Council:
- III. COMMUNICATIONS: Denise Collins  
*Special Projects*  
Website
- IV. EDUCATION: Denise Collins  
*Special Projects*  
Publication: *Gazette*
- V. SCENIC STREETS/ROADS: Bonnie Duresa
- VI. PROGRAM COORDINATOR: Gloria Mack

REPORT FROM MCCD: Gail Drabant

REPORT FROM PLANNING STAFF: Maryanne Wanaski

NEW BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT

**McHenry County**  
**Historic Preservation Commission *Tentative* Agenda**  
**Wednesday, August 2, 2006**  
**7:00 pm**

CALL TO ORDER:

ROLL CALL:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

REPORT BY CHAIRPERSON:

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- I. SURVEY: Gail Drabant  
*Special Projects*  
Endangered Sites: Nick Chirikos  
Rural Intensive Survey: Tabled
- II. MUNICIPAL LIAISON: David Gervais, Gloria Mack  
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- III. COMMUNICATIONS: Denise Collins  
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*Special Projects*  
Publication: *Gazette*
- V. SCENIC STREETS/ROADS: Bonnie Duresa
- VI. PROGRAM COORDINATOR: Gloria Mack

REPORT FROM MCCD: Gail Drabant

REPORT FROM PLANNING STAFF: Maryanne Wanaski

NEW BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT



**MCHENRY COUNTY  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 6, 2006**

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Gloria Mack, Denise Collins, Gail Drabant, Bonnie Duresa, David Gervais, Dorothy Scherschel, Tip Hamilton and Nick Chirikos

Staff: Maryanne Wanaski and Audrey Martin

Guest: Jeff Young, McHenry County Division of Transportation (MCDOT)

Chairperson Denise Collins called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Ms. Drabant, seconded by Ms. Duresa to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2006 meeting. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Jeff Young, Assistant County Engineer, was in attendance regarding the Allendale Bridge. Mr. Young was seeking input and direction how to proceed. Ms. Mack said she attended a meeting at Varga and Associates. Varga and Associates completed an independent evaluation of the bridge. Mr. Ernie Varga stated it was his opinion that the bridge was not able to be moved because it would crumble; it would not be able to be saved in its current condition. The problem with the bridge is in the way it is designed. If one of the members (trusses, supports, etc.) fails underneath the surface, the load will be displaced. The rusting and deterioration of the steel has progressed quite substantially. Most bridges are designed for 20 years. The Allendale Bridge is 68 years old.

Ms. Collins suggested that maybe the new subdivision being developed might like to incorporate the bridge into their design. The Township would have to donate the bridge to the developers. Mr. Chirikos asked if it was possible to move the bridge to the right of way and create a historical point of interest.

Mr. Gervais thanked Ms. Mack for all of her efforts on the bridge. Ms. Mack noted Ms. Nancy Fike has also worked very hard with her.

It was discussed that any reuse of the pony trusses would be in the hands of Greenwood Township. A thank you note has been sent by Ms. Mack to Varga and Associates for all the work they contributed.

Motion by Ms. Mack, seconded by Mr. Gervais, to remove landmark status of the Allendale Bridge upon its schedule for demolition.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Ms. Collins submitted her comments in writing and they are attached. Ms. Collins met with County Board Chairman Ken Koehler to discuss the Allendale Bridge. As stated before, the bridge is in too poor a condition to be considered safe.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Ms. Collins stated she is currently updating the website. Everything was transferred to a new host which is supposed to be more secure; however she was unable to access the web statistics. She is also in the process of putting the Trout Valley Stone Gate in the slide show.

The Gazette is ready to go. Ms. Collins asked for any suggestions for short articles for the next issue. The date of release has been set back due to family issues. The fall issue will be coming out the end of October.

Ms. Collins passed out a sheet with ideas from the July 15th Commission brainstorming session. The sheet is attached. It was suggested to start working now on the scavenger hunt for next May's preservation activities.

There was a discussion on who would research the topics generated from the brainstorming session. The following was decided:

- Future Landmark Possibilities
  - Types of Mills – Dorothy Scherschel & Bonnie Duresa,
  - Stones and Races – Nick Chirikos
- Indian Burial and Effigy Mounds – Denise Collins
- Stones Races – Nick Chirikos
- Indian Trails and Traces – Gail Drabant
- Buffalo Wallows – Nick Chirikos
- Trees
  - Maple sugaring groves – Denise Collins
  - Native American directional trees pointing to sugar groves – Denise Collins
- Old Railroad Beds – David Gervais
- Cemeteries – Tip Hamilton

## **SURVEY**

Ms. Drabant submitted comments in writing and they are attached. She passed out business cards to Ms. Duresa and Mr. Chirikos. She discussed the Johnsbury "Schafer" House. The current owner of the house is Charlie Eldgridge. He is in the process of fixing up the house, a new bathroom, painting the exterior. He's splitting off 1.4 acres to sell it as a family home. The property, soon to be annexed into the Village of Johnsbury, was originally scheduled for demolition. He asked the Commission to look at the house and offer an opinion. Ms. Drabant supports the preservation of the house.

Ms. Mack and Ms. Drabant went to out to a farmstead on Lily Lake Road. The house has many original features but it has been extensively remodeled and there is not enough to have it landmarked. She passed pictures around.

A nomination form for the Kennedy Way Station was received, but it was only the form itself without all of the appendices so that nomination is on hold.

## **MUNICIPAL LIAISON**

Ms. Mack submitted her comments in writing and they are attached. Mr. Gervais said he had a discussion with the Mayor of Trout Valley regarding creating an historic district in Trout Valley. He will be following up on that discussion.

## **JOINT COUNCIL**

Ms. Mack mentioned the State has a Historical Marker Program. This will be discussed at the Joint Council Meeting On September 20<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be held at 7:00 at the Crystal Lake Main Beach house.

## **SCENIC STREETS AND ROADS**

Ms. Duresa received a new scenic road application for Indian Trail in Lake in The Hills and Algonquin. She will forward the application to the Scenic Road Sub-Committee.

## **PROGRAM COORDINATOR**

No Report.

## **REPORT FROM MCCD**

Ms. Drabant reported the Trail of History will be held October 21st and 22nd. This Saturday, September 9th is the Archeological Demonstration Day at Powers Walkers House at Glacial Park from noon to four. Union Cemetery will having a cemetery walk on September 17th.

## **REPORT FROM STAFF**

There was a discussion regarding a permit to re-roof buildings / structures on the Stonewell Diecke Farm (Huntley Park District). The Commission discussed the

application of materials and asked staff to complete the Certificate of Appropriateness with the Commission's comments.

Motion by Ms. Drabant, seconded by Mr. Gervais, to approve the roof with recommendations. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Ms. Wanaski passed out the schedule of dates for the Commission's meetings for next year. After some discussion, it was decided to change the January meeting to January 10<sup>th</sup> and schedule the July meeting for July 11<sup>th</sup>.

Motion by Ms. Mack, seconded by Mr. Hamilton to accept proposed changes to the Commission's meeting dates. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Dorothy Otis requested a nomination form be sent to Flatlanders Market. Ms. Wanaski mailed it the previous week.

Motion by Ms. Mack, seconded by Mr. Gervais to adjourn. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

**McHenry County**  
**Historic Preservation Commission **Tentative** Agenda**  
**Wednesday, October 4, 2006**  
**7:00 pm**

CALL TO ORDER:

ROLL CALL:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

REPORT BY CHAIRPERSON:

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- I. SURVEY: Gail Drabant  
*Special Projects*  
Endangered Sites: Nick Chirikos  
Rural Intensive Survey: Tabled
- II. MUNICIPAL LIAISON: David Gervais, Gloria Mack  
*Special Projects*  
Joint Council
- III. COMMUNICATIONS: Denise Collins  
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Website
- IV. EDUCATION: Denise Collins  
*Special Projects*  
Publication: *Gazette*
- V. SCENIC STREETS/ROADS: Bonnie Duresa
- VI. PROGRAM COORDINATOR: Gloria Mack

REPORT FROM MCCD: Gail Drabant

REPORT FROM PLANNING STAFF: Maryanne Wanaski

NEW BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT

**MCHENRY COUNTY  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 1, 2006**

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Gloria Mack, Denise Collins, Gail Drabant, Bonnie Duresa, David Gervais, Dorothy Scherschel, Nick Chirikos

Staff: Maryanne Wanaski and Audrey Martin

Absent: Tip Hamilton

Chairperson, Denise Collins called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- Ms. Mack noted on page one, the motion was to remove the landmark status of Allendale Bridge. It should read "it would remove the landmark status of the Allendale Bridge upon its schedule for demolition."
- Ms. Drabant noted on page 3, the reference to Mr. Gervais visiting Schafer house and attending the Johnsburg Village meeting should be deleted.
- Weigh station should be spelled *Way* station.
- Under the report from MCCD, Glacier Park should be *Glacial*.
- Under Report from Staff, the motion for the Certificate of Appropriateness regarding a permit to re-roof buildings / structures on the Stowell-Deicke Farm should read to approve the roof with *recommendations*, not conditions.
- Under the future Landmark Possibilities, Nick Chirikos will be researching Stones and Races.
- Ms. Drabant and Ms. Collins will work on Indian Trails and Traces together since Ms. Collins said she has already done some research on Traces.

Motion by Ms. Drabant, seconded by Mr. Gervais to approve the meeting minutes of September 6, 2006 with corrections. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

There was a brief discussion on the future landmark possibilities. Ms. Collins told the Commission she has been in contact with a woman in Marengo who has an Indian Trace on her property who is agreeable to landmarking the site. Mr.

Gervais informed the Commission he is working with a student from McHenry County College on old railroad right-of-ways in reference to his researching old railroad beds.

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Ms. Collins stated she was having some internet issues. The fall issue will not be distributed in print form but will be posted on the website. The next printable issue will come out in January. Ms. Collins said she was not able to get the website statistics posted.

### **SURVEY**

Ms. Drabant stated no sites were surveyed during the month. Ms. Wanaski asked Ms. Drabant to comment on a cell tower request located at 5303 Wilmot Road in Spring Grove. After review, Ms. Drabant stated there are existing cell towers. After discussion, Commission members had no objections to the location. Ms. Wanaski will compose a letter to EBI Consulting, Inc and copy the IHPA office.

Mr. Chirikos has started to process an application for historical landmark designation on the River Road round barn in Marengo. He has not spoken with the owners, but they have verbally agreed to sell the property to relieve them of the burden of maintaining the structure. He will follow up on this as well as the octagon barn in Spring Grove.

### **MUNICIPAL LIAISON**

Ms. Mack stated the Joint Council meeting held at the Main Beach House in Crystal Lake was not well attended. In the future, The Council will not only send emails but also use snail mail in hopes Council meetings will have better attendance.

### **SCENIC STREETS AND ROADS**

Ms. Duresa visited the Morton Arboretum while attending a nearby seminar. She wanted the Commission to know it is a beautiful place and recommends the members visit the Arboretum if they have a chance. Ms. Duresa reported that she also attended the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Workshop on October 20<sup>th</sup> in Milwaukee. The workshop was mainly geared to additions for historic buildings.

Ms. Duresa distributed a binder containing a nomination form and other information for Indian Trail in Lake in the Hills. The Lake in the Hills Historical Society presented submitted the nomination. Ms. Duresa stated all the criteria have been met. The Lake in The Hills Historical Society and the Village are

discussing having a ceremony. Ms. Duresa did not have any information on when that might occur.

Motion by Ms. Drabant, seconded by Mr. Gervais, to accept the Scenic Road Sub-Committee's recommendation to designate Indian Trail in Lake in The Hills as Scenic Drive Number 6. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

#### **PROGRAM COORDINATOR**

No Report

#### **REPORT FROM MCCD**

No Report

#### **REPORT FROM STAFF**

Ms. Wanaski informed the Commission that Ms. Duresa's and Mr. Gervais' terms will expire at the end of November. She will forward a recommendation to the Planning and Development Committee for reappointment.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

The Powers Walker House Harvest Program will be held on Sunday, November 5th from 11:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Chirikos mentioned there will be a seminar in Downtown Chicago, November 5-8 called Rail~Volution which is being promoted by the rail lines. The seminar is for people who believe strongly in the role of land use and transit as equal partners in the quest for greater livability and greater communities.

There was a discussion regarding the Commission's holiday meeting. The Commission thought January may be a possibility. January would be less busy for everyone and more people could attend.

The Commission discussed spending funds during Historic Preservation Week. It was decided a GPS would be purchased as a prize. A total of \$500 could be allocated for the week.

Motion by Mr. Gervais, seconded by Ms. Mack to allocate \$200 to purchase a GPS System for an Historic Preservation prize. Roll call: Denise Collins: Aye, Bonnie Duresa: Aye, Nick Chirikos: Aye, David Gervais: Aye, Dorothy Scherschel: Aye, Gail Drabant: Aye, Gloria Mack: Aye. Motion approved.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

None



Motion by Ms. Duresa, seconded by Ms. Drabant to allocate \$300 to purchase Visa gift cards in \$25 increments for prizes during Historic Preservation Week. Roll call: Denise Collins: Aye, Bonnie Duresa: Aye, Nick Chirikos: Aye, David Gervais: Aye, Dorothy Scherschel: Aye, Gail Drabant: Aye, Gloria Mack: Aye. Motion approved.

Motion by Mr. Gervais, seconded by Ms. Mack to adjourn. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

**McHenry County**  
**Historic Preservation Commission *Tentative* Agenda**  
**Wednesday, December 6, 2006**  
**7:00 pm**

CALL TO ORDER:

ROLL CALL:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

REPORT BY CHAIRPERSON:

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- I. SURVEY: Gail Drabant  
*Special Projects*  
Endangered Sites: Nick Chirikos  
Rural Intensive Survey: Tabled
- II. MUNICIPAL LIAISON: David Gervais, Gloria Mack  
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- IV. EDUCATION: Denise Collins  
*Special Projects*  
Publication: *Gazette*
- V. SCENIC STREETS/ROADS: Bonnie Duresa
- VI. PROGRAM COORDINATOR: Gloria Mack

REPORT FROM MCCD: Gail Drabant

REPORT FROM PLANNING STAFF: Maryanne Wanaski

NEW BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT