

Will County Heritage Alliance Minutes

July 21, 2007

10:00 a.m.

**Pilcher Park Nature Center
2501 Highland Park Drive
Joliet, Illinois**

Present:

- Mark Batson, *New Lenox Area Historical Society, Will County Historic Preservation Commission*
- Judy Bredeweg, *Bolingbrook Historic Preservation Commission*
- Virginia Ferry, *Joliet Area Historical Society, Will County Historic Preservation Commission*
- Harry Klinkhamer, *Forest Preserve District of Will County*
- John Lamb, *Lockport Heritage and Architecture Commission, Will County Historic Preservation Commission*
- Sara Javoronok, *Village of Plainfield Planning Division*
- Erwin Klopffstein, *Lockport Area Genealogical and Historical Society*
- Linda Konley, *Midwin Heritage Association*
- Bill Molony, *Blackhawk Chapter, National Railway Historical Society*
- Amy Munro, *Will County Land Use Department*
- Robert Navarro, *Heritage Corridor Convention & Visitors Bureau*
- JoAnn Potenziani, *New Lenox Public Library District*
- Bill Scales, *Eagle Hotel, Wilmington*
- Lynne Smaczny, *Will County Historical Society*
- Gretchen Sullivan, *Will County Historic Preservation Commission*
- Sandy Vasko, *Will County Historical Society, Wilmington Public Library District, Will County Historic Preservation Commission*

1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting came to order at 10:10 a.m. Lynne Smaczny welcomed everyone. Participants introduced themselves and the organizations they represented.

2. Draft Will County Heritage Alliance Guiding Principles Document

Review draft of WCHA Guiding Principles document. The document was well-received. Minor edits were noted. Two clauses were recommended. Under Article IV – Governance Section 2 – Appointments and Term Limits, it was recommended to include a Council Member application form to be presented, 30 days prior to the Annual October Meeting. Interested parties who would like to be considered for council positions were requested to submit a form. Under Article IV – Governance Section 4 Part D – Publicity Coordinator, additional responsibility for notifying the media shall be inserted.

Amy Munro will put together the Council Member Application and e-mail it to WCHA members. The adopted revised Guiding Principles will also be sent to members at this time.

3. Proposed Project Ideas

a. Past Perfect 2008

Past Perfect 2008 software training session for annual project. It will be a fee - based presentation, with invitations sent to County organizations as well as parties outside of Will County. Smaczny will work on this project and will explore finding a computer lab, speakers, etc. WCHA members were asked to contact Smaczny to provide assistance on coordinating the workshop.

b. County Heritage Organization Brochure

To expand communications and outreach efforts, Munro and Sandy Vasko will work on a brochure that will list County heritage organizations together with their specific focus areas. It is anticipated that organizations interested in being listed in the brochure will need to help offset the cost of printing. To assist in the printing costs, WCHA members would likely just need to pay a one-time fee.

c. Speakers Bureau

The purpose of this bureau is to coordinate and process information to put on the web site about who is available to speak on topics of interest to members of the alliance or outside entities that would need a speaker for their meetings, etc. Due to the time commitment involved, further discussion was tabled until other WCHA projects are completed.

4. Future Meeting Topics

a. Next meeting date – Saturday, October 20, 2007

b. Future meeting hosts/topics

- January 2008 Topic – So you want to save a building, now what? 11th hour strategy
- April 2008 Topic – Collections planning, what should be collected and how
- July 2008 Topic – Marketing and PR

Members were asked to submit names of potential speakers to Lynne.

5. Other

6. Announcements

a. Heritage Events Around Will County

Various events around the County were announced.

- Bob Navarro passed out the Heritage Corridor Convention and Visitors Bureau Events Guide. Navarro stated that although the new version is scheduled

to print, if there are some events the WCHA would like placed in the guide, he would extend the printing deadline. He also distributed the Heritage Corridor Convention and Visitors Bureau Report of upcoming events, news, etc. When the new Events Guide is ready WCHA members should contact him for copies that can be placed at member locations. (125 guides per case)

- Smaczny mentioned that a future Will County Historical Society exhibit is in need of Township focused artifacts, and written histories, covering 1830 – 1870 that can be loaned to the Museum for a year's time. The exhibit is to open winter of 2008. Members interested in participating in the exhibit should contact Smaczny.

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.