



VILLAGE OF THIENSVILLE
Historic Preservation Commission
MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, November 4, 2025

LOCATION: 250 Elm Street, Thiensville, WI

TIME: 6:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

Chairman

Richard Longabaugh

Staff

Director of Community
Services/Public Works Andy
LaFond

Commissioners

Joe Miller

Angelina Apostolos
(Excused)

Philip Eckert

Nate Matson (Excused)

Kim Hauswirth

Linda Unkefer

III. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

A. Open to any resident or taxpayer on items not subject to a public hearing: Please be advised per §19.84(2), information will be received from the public. Village policy limits a three (3) minute time period per person, with time extension by the presiding official's discretion or a vote of 2/3 of the Board or Committee; be further advised that there may be limited discussion on the information received, however, no action will be taken under public comments. Written comments on agenda items are encouraged to be sent and addressed to the intended body by noon on the day of the meeting. Comments received timely will be forwarded to all members of the body. If you wish to speak, you must pre-register by emailing the Village Clerk at clandisch@thiensville.gov by 4:00 PM on the day of the meeting or by signing in immediately prior to the meeting.

IV. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

December 2, 2025 - 6:00 PM

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. August 5, 2025 (att)

MOTION to Approve the Minutes of the August 5, 2025 Meeting by Commissioner Eckert **SECONDED** by Commissioner Miller. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Aye: 5

No: 0

Abstain: 0

VI. BUSINESS

A. Discussion Regarding 2026 Initiatives (Longabaugh)

Chairman Longabaugh asked of the Commissioners if they had a particular goal, mission, or initiative for the upcoming year.

Chairman Longabaugh asked for Commissioner Miller to expand on the walking tours.

Commissioner Miller stated that the walking tour highlights the historic buildings. Those that have plaques were given extra mention during the tour.

Commissioner Miller also commented that the Historic Preservation Commission has had a presence at events in Village Park in the past. At these events, historical items, historic books, or even T-shirts, would be displayed, allowing for public awareness of the Commission and its goals.

Director LaFond noted that in utilizing volunteers, booths or tables at the weekly Farmer's Market would be a place to share information such as the Village's History books.

Director LaFond noted that an initiative that would be beneficial in the next year was continuing to remind owners of historic properties that they have a building in the historic district and the importance of getting Historic Preservation Commission approval for permits.

Commissioner Unkefer values the historic preservation education initiative and would like to see that become a focus and mission in the future.

Commissioner Hauswirth inquired as to what sorts of initiatives have been done in the past as well as if any fundraising has ever been done for the Historic Preservation Commission.

Director LaFond mentioned the historic walking tour book, displays, and collaborating with the Thiensville Business Association on other walking tours. Funds have been raised through T-shirt sales and historic book sales.

Commissioner Eckert inquired of Director LaFond if the change to utilizing Staff approval for various Historic Preservation projects has affected the activity of the Historic Preservation

Commission meetings.

Director LaFond explained that the activity of the meetings has dropped, but the compliance by historic property owners has increased as they received approval in a much more timely manner for simple projects.

The commissioners discussed having a presence at future Farmer's markets.

Chairman Longabaugh asked that the Commissioners consider goals for the new year and bring them to the next meeting.

Director LaFond shared the value of bringing in a speaker who could explore various topics regarding Historic Preservation or partnering with the Mequon-Thiensville Historic Society for a meeting in the future.

B. Discussion Regarding the Process for Awarding Historic Plaques in the Village

Chairman Longabaugh reminded the commissioners that the 6 historic plaques that were recently developed are to be presented at the Village Volunteer/Employee Recognition dinner on November 19, 2025.

Director LaFond noted that the plaque recipients were sent a letter noting that their property was receiving a plaque as well as an invitation to the dinner. He continued that at the time, no RSVP's had been received.

Director LaFond stated that a slideshow with images of the properties will be created to go along with the presentation of the plaques.

The Commissioners discussed possible reasons for the low response rate from recipients and ways to increase the attendance of plaque awardees at the dinner.

Commissioner Unkefer inquired if discussion would be had during the presentation about how these properties were selected and about how they expand the future walking tour.

Commissioner Miller inquired if the walking tour would prompt the creation of a new book or if it would be an online feature.

The Commissioners further discussed the walking tour and how it has functioned in the past.

Director LaFond inquired of Commissioner Eckert about the cadence with which the Mequon-Thiensville Community Foundation administers grants and if it may be possible to receive future grant awards in order to continue the distribution of plaques throughout the historic districts.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn at 6:25 PM by Commissioner Hauswirth. **SECONDED** by Commissioner

Miller. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Aye: 5

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Submitted by,

Ben Honeck
Deputy clerk

Signed by,

Colleen Landisch-Hansen
Village Administrator/Clerk