

**VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

September 25th, 2025

A meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission was held on September 25th, 2025, in the 1st Floor Community Room of the River Forest Village Hall, 400 Park Avenue.

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. Upon roll call, the following persons were:

Present: Chair Franek, Commissioners Saeger, Graham-White, Muhr (Zoom,) Forehand

Absent: Commissioners Raino-Ogden, Schutzenhofer

Also Present: Management Analyst/Deputy Clerk Luke Masella

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Graham-White and SECONDED by Commissioner Saeger to allow Commissioners Raino-Ogden and Muhr to participate in tonight's meeting virtually due to work obligations.

AYES: Chair Franek, Commissioners Saeger, Graham-White, Forehand

NAYS: None

Motion Passes.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – May 29th, 2025

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Saeger and SECONDED by Commissioner Forehand to approve the meeting minutes for the May 29th, 2025, meeting.

AYES: Commissioners Saeger, Graham-White, Muhr, Forehand

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Chair Franek

Motion Passes.

Commissioner Muhr joined at 7:05pm.

IV. PROPOSED REWRITE OF THE VILLAGE HISTORIC PRESERVATION ORDINANCE – REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

The Commission, together with Deputy Clerk Masella, reviewed the redlined version provided for the meeting on a page-by-page basis. The Commission discussed and recommended edits for Deputy Clerk Masella to incorporate into a revised draft to be presented at the next meeting.

Among the requested revisions were several items based on the Commission's feedback, including implementing consistent capitalization throughout the document, ensuring the proper use of the term "principal structure," restructuring and expanding sections related to hearings for local landmark designations, refining language for improved clarity and flow, reviewing the demolition delay timeline, and discussing the use of certified mail notifications. These represent some of the topics discussed, as additional and other details were also reviewed throughout the meeting.

The Commission directed Deputy Clerk Masella to create a second draft for review at their next meeting.

V. DISCUSSION REGARDING PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF RIVER FOREST ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORY

Chair Franek expressed concern regarding work being completed in the Village without the Commission's review and requested that staff exercise greater diligence during their review process.

Deputy Clerk Masella provided an update on the online architectural survey.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

VII. ADJOURNEMENT

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Forehand and SECONDED by Commissioner Saeger to adjourn the September 25th, 2025, meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission.

AYES: Chair Franek, Commissioners Saeger, Graham-White, Muhr, Forehand

NAYS: None.

Motion Passes and the meeting ended at 9:05 PM.



Luke Masella
Deputy Clerk/Management Analyst