

VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

October 23rd, 2025

A meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission was held on October 23rd, 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, Forehand, Schutzenhofer

Absent: Commissioners Muhr and Graham-White

Also Present: Management Analyst/Deputy Clerk Luke Masella

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – September 25th, 2025

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Saeger and SECONDED by Commissioner Forehand to approve the meeting minutes for the September 25th, 2025, meeting.

AYES: Chair Franek, Commissioners Saeger, Forehand, Schutzenhofer

NAYS: None

Motion Passes.

IV. RECOGNITION OF THE PASSING OF COMMISSIONER DAVID RAINO-OGDEN

Chairman Franek read a statement aloud regarding the passing of former commission member David Raino-Ogden. He then asked the Commission to consider a resolution that would honor David by naming his block, Edgewood Place, in his memory and presenting an honorary street sign.

Commissioner Saeger expressed support for the proposed street sign and shared remarks reflecting on Commissioner Raino-Ogden's contributions to the Village.

Commissioner Forehand shared remarks on Commissioner Raino-Ogden as well.

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A MOTION was made by Commissioner Forehand to ask the Village Board to consider an honorary street designation for Edgewood Place in recognition of Commissioner Raino-Ogden. Seconded by Commissioner Saeger.

AYES: Chair Franek, Commissioners Saeger, Forehand, Schutzenhofer

NAYS: None

Motion Passes.

V. WELCOME INTRODUCTION OF INCOMING COMMISSIONER

Commissioner Schutzenhofer introduced himself to the Commission, and Chair Franek then described the Commission as an open forum where members are encouraged to speak freely.

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

The Commission, along with Deputy Clerk Masella, reviewed the proposed revisions page by page. Members provided feedback on several areas, including global capitalization changes, term length information, reference checks, scrivener's errors, and a significant rewrite regarding the handling of garage demolitions.

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

Commissioner Saeger and Deputy Clerk Masella discussed a pending update to the Villages searchable database.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Franek noted that with the passing of David Raino-Ogden, there is now a vacancy on both the Commission and its Architectural Subcommittee. He mentioned that he had expressed to the Village President that, if possible, the next appointee should be an architect. In the meantime, due to the absence of the Architectural Subcommittee, Commissioner Forehand suggested that Chair Franek could temporarily fill the vacancy.

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Saeger to appoint Chair Franek as a temporary member of the architectural review subcommittee. Seconded by Commissioner Forehand.

AYES: Chair Franek, Commissioners Saeger, Forehand, Schutzenhofer

NAYS: None

Motion Passes.

Commissioner Forehand noted that he has been searching for possible appointees.

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IX. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Schutzenhofer and SECONDED by Commissioner Saeger to adjourn the October 23rd, 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 8:45 PM.

 12-17-25

Luke Masella
Deputy Clerk/Management Analyst