

HISTORICAL COMMISSION
March 9, 2026
OFFICIAL MEETING

PRESENT

Martin Balzer
Levonne Cescolini -Boyer
Kimberly Last
Mike Provinzino
Christopher Pudelek

ABSENT

Mike Bruntz
John Navrocki
Mayor Hundley

ALSO PRESENT:

Susan English, Museum Coordinator/Staff Liaison,

With a quorum being present, Chairman Pudelek called the official meeting to order at 3:35pm.

Minutes: With a motion by Commissioner Provinzino and seconded by Commissioner Last , the official minutes of the November 11, 2025 meeting were approved unanimously.

Chairman Pudelek shared email correspondence from Andrew Prazuch, step-son of Commissioner Karedes. John has decided to resign from the Commission at this time to spend more time with family in his retirement. He expressed his support of the Commission's work and his pride in serving with so many dedicated Addison citizens over the past many years. The Commission reluctantly accepted his resignation.

Historical Museum Updates: Susan reported on the museum's participation in the Village's Christmas Tree Lighting and Holiday events. The museum saw 119 visitors on Tree Lighting night, December 5, and 72 on the following Saturday night. The next week the museum only had 19 visitors on Friday, December 12 and 4 visitors on Saturday, December 13. Commissioners noted that it was extremely cold this year.

The Village is holding interviews for the seasonal Museum Assistant position this month. As of now, there are 5 interviews set up. Susan hopes to hire an assistant to work May through August.

ASD4 School visits are scheduled for May 11, 12, 14, 15, 18, 20 and 21st. They are in mid-May so that we can utilize the seasonal assistant. There will be changes to the tour this year. ASD4 reached out and indicated that they felt the tour as is, was beyond their student's comprehension level. The 2nd graders will only visit the Century House and Coach House this year, and the tour has been trimmed down from 75 minutes to 45 minutes. Commissioner Cescolini-Boyer asked if we were going to change the grade level. Susan responded not this year, but she and library staff will meet with ASD4 staff over the summer to develop a tour visit for Fourth Grade students going forward.

Susan shared her Historical Portrayal/Presentation schedule for Rock 'N Wheels. She is focusing on having Revolutionary War era portrayals this summer to mark America 250. Susan noted that she was able to persuade presenter, Terry Lynch to participate for the first time. Commissioners noted that he was doing several presentations. Susan responded that it is difficult to find male historical portrayers.

Susan reported that the Addison-Medinah Shriners parade will be held Sunday, August 30th. The theme of the parade is America@250: Let Freedom Ring. The mayor has designated the Addison Historical Commission and Addison Historical Society Board as honorary Parade grand marshals to celebrate the museum's 50th anniversary this summer. Susan invited Commissioners to ride the float in the parade. Susan mentioned that she will try to secure a re-enactor for the parade to ride on the float. Commissioner Pudelek mentioned that the museum had a reenactor of Johnny Appleseed during the first parade in 2018. Commissioner suggested Thomas Jefferson.

HC MINUTES 03.09.2026.

Susan indicated that she had not been able to find a Jefferson reenactor. Commissioner Last mentioned that WGN personalities talk with a Thomas Jefferson actor. She will forward Susan the contact information.

Historical Society Updates:

Susan reported on behalf of the Historical Society. The event performed well last year even though it had to be moved into the Rotunda. Due to Susan's availability, this year's event has been moved to Tuesday June 9th for the 9th annual event. Commissioner Provinzino asked if we get insurance for this event. Susan replied that the Historical Museum now has general liability insurance and gets a 24-hour liquor license from the Village.

Spring programming for the Society begins next week March 19th with Rebecca Tulloch's "Revolutionary America!" As Abigail Adams, she will discuss what life was like in and around Boston during the Revolution. On April 16, Valerie Gugala will present "The Founding Fathers: Myths, Realities and Legacies". Both programs are co-sponsored by the Addison Public Library, but will be held in Village Hall Board Room due to library renovations.

Commissioner asked about the fall programs. On September 17th, Barbara Barrett will present her lecture on women and the automobile called "Driving Forces" in honor of Route 20's centennial. In October, John Kokoris will present his program "Great Graves of Illinois". Commissioner Pudelek noted the Ghost Hunter program last fall was very successful.

STEPS Committee Report: The STEPS committee has been meeting regularly. Susan distributed an expanded Donor Privacy Policy the committee is recommending for adoption. It was approved by the Society board last week. On a motion by Commissioner Balzer, and seconded by Commissioner Provinzino, the expanded Privacy Policy was approved. Commissioner Pudelek asked what was next for the STEPS committee. Susan shared that they are meeting later this month to continue the Management section of the workbook.

Flags for Addison Program: Commissioner Cescolini-Boyer distributed information about the 2026 program. The theme this year is America 250, and they hope to sell 250 flags. Commissioner Provinzino asked how many kids were involved. Commissioner Cescolini-Boyer replied that the group has 62 members, but participation varies. They partner with VFW on the fall luncheon and program at A.T.H.S. Commissioner Provinzino asked for copies of flyers to have at Knights of Columbus events. Commissioner Pudelek asked about the Wreaths across Addison program. In December, the group puts wreaths at the gravesites of veterans at St. Paul's cemetery. Commissioner Cescolini-Boyer indicated the national group was too cost prohibitive to join. Commissioner Provinzino asked her if she had contacts with the local churches. He is looking for partners for a Christmas food bag program the Knights and Italian club currently sponsor. Susan will forward him her church list, but is not sure it is up to date. Commissioner Pudelek asked if they were working with the new Veterans museum. Commissioner Cescolini-Boyer indicated they had helped paint and clean last fall, and she needs to schedule another visit this spring. Susan mentioned that there are having their grand opening in June.

U.S.A. 250 Committee Update: Susan reported that the America250 and Route 20 Centennial Banners are now up on Lake St. They run from Wood Dale Road to the Mill Road along Lake St. They will be up through Fourth of July. Commissioner Balzer mentioned that you have to make an effort to see them because the light poles are so tall. A Susan indicated that we increased the size of the banners due to the height of the poles. A USA250 calendar has been created on the Village website. The Addison USA250 committee will be meeting again tomorrow afternoon at Village Hall. There will be an event on July 2nd to commemorate the museum's 50th anniversary. Commissioner Pudelek asked about bell ringing. Susan is working with Commissioner Cescolini-Boyer to staff this for this summer's Rock 'N Wheels. The commissioners noted that the Declaration of Independence was actually adopted on July 2, 1776, but not July 4th. Commissioner Pudelek asked if the reenactments would be listed on the calendar. In addition to being on the Village calendar, Susan will add all Village 250 events to the state 250 website.

Other Business:

Other Business: None.

Commissioner Pudelek announced that the next meeting of the Commission will be Monday, May 11
A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Cescolini-Boyer and seconded by Commissioner Provinzino
and approved by all. The meeting adjourned at 4:04pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan English, Museum Coordinator