

HISTORICAL COMMISSION
September 8, 2025
OFFICIAL MEETING

PRESENT

Martin Balzer
Kimberly Last
John Navrocki
Mike Provinzino
Christopher Pudelek

ABSENT

Levonne Cescolini-Boyer
Mike Bruntz
John Karedes
Mayor Hundley

ALSO PRESENT:

Susan English, Museum Coordinator/Staff Liaison,

With a quorum being present, Chairman Pudelek called the official meeting to order at 3:29pm.

Minutes: With a motion by Commissioner Provinzino and seconded by Commissioner Last , the official minutes of the May 12, 2025 meeting were approved unanimously.

Historical Museum Updates: Susan reported that the museum had 2,525 engagements during the summer Rock ‘N Wheels season. This is down slightly from 2024 where the museum saw 2,679 engagements. Susan referenced rain and hot and smokey weather as contributing factors to the slight decline. Chairman Pudelek asked about tracking engagement at the museum tent. Susan replied that this was started in July 2025. Commissioner Provinzino felt that RNW attendance is driven by the band selection.

Susan reported that she was fortunate to have both a paid seasonal assistant and volunteer intern this summer. Our seasonal assistant was Eleanor “Nellie” Mueller who worked from mid-May through the end of August. She assisted with school tours, Rock and Wheels, curated the Village Hall History and Bicentennial Rotunda exhibits and new signage for the exhibit rooms in the museum. The museum’s volunteer intern was Isabel DeLuna, daughter of Kiki DeLuna who directs the Henry Hyde Center. Isabel gave tours in Spanish and began translation of museum labels into Spanish.

The Village will be doing a new special event in October called Oktoberfest. It will be Friday, October 17 and Saturday October 18 from 6-8 pm on the museum campus and from 6-10 pm on the Village Green. Susan has arranged for a couple from a museum in Westchester to interpret early German settlers of the area on Friday, and Jonathan Sebastian will reprise his role as Teacher Koch on Saturday. Commissioner Last mentioned that these settlers walked to Bensenville on Sundays to attend Zion Lutheran Church. Chairman Pudelek asked about the music on the Village Green. Susan replied that she did not know specifically. Commissioner Provinzino mentioned an oompah band. Susan has reached out to the Dank Haus German American Cultural Center downtown for literature to distribute during the event. She also plans to do a small display on some of the early German bars that once populated Addison.

The museum will have an open house on Tuesday, November 11 from 9am-11am in observance of Veterans Day. A ceremony will be held on the Village Green at 11am.

Christmas Tree Lighting will be Friday, December 5 from 5-8pm followed by holiday events on Saturday, December 6, Friday December 12 and Saturday, December 13 from 6-8pm.

Historical Society Updates:

Susan reported on behalf of the Historical Society. Addison Uncorked performed similarly to last year. It had to be moved into the Village Hall Rotunda due to weather. Next year’s date is Tuesday, June 9th for the 9th annual

event as Susan will be out of town later that month. Commissioner Navrocki reminded Susan that he will be away on his cruise vacation.

The Society and Library first joint program for the fall is “America@250 Countdown to 250 Preserving Our Freedom” by Terry Lynch on Thursday, September 18th at 7pm in Room 1301 of Village Hall. The October program is “Addison: Voice from the Past” by local ghost hunter, Tony Szabelski on October 16th at 7pm in the Board Room of Village Hall. Tony will share videos of visiting notable Addison residents’ graves in St. Paul Cemetery and a paranormal investigation of the Century House.

The Historical Society Holiday Potluck will be Sunday, December 7 from 3-5pm at the Addison V.F.W. Our presenter is Leslie Goddard who will present a program on “It’s a Wonderful Life”. The Society provides the main dishes and guests are asked to bring a side dish or dessert.

STEPS Committee Report: There was no update as the committee did not meet during the summer.

Flags for Addison Program: There was no formal report as Commissioner Cescolini-Boyer was absent. Commissioner Provinzino asked how many flags were bought this year. Susan thought they sold more than last year, but did not meet their 100-flag sales goal. Commissioner Provinzino recommended they blanket areas like Farmwood and Foxdale with flyers. Commissioner Balzer asked if it could be promoted in the quarterly newsletter. Susan replied that space in the newsletter is extremely limited due to sharing space with other governing entities. Commissioner Provinzino reiterated his belief that flyers distributed by the students would be the best marketing tool. Chairman Pudelek asked about LeVonne and her group at the last Rock ‘N Wheels. Susan mentioned she had difficulty scheduling students to manage the bell ringing opportunity and did it herself along with her daughter. Commissioner Navrocki suggested they place flyers at the VFW and Museum tents. Commissioner Provinzino suggested they have posters printed.

U.S. 250 Committee Update: Susan reported that there were four bell ringing opportunities this summer. Three half-hour ones during Rock ‘N Wheels and during the entire National Night Out. Participants were given a flag pin after they rang the bell. The bell is still on display in the museum for guests to ring.

Susan shared the Route 20 Centennial Video that was produced by the museum consortium. Elmhurst, Addison, Bartlett and Elgin museums participated. Commissioner Last about Bloomingdale, Roselle. and Streamwood, Susan responded that they did not accept an invitation to participate, and Streamwood no longer operates an historical museum. Chairman Pudelek asked about Galena. Susan replied that this was an effort to promote Route 20 locally. Susan hopes to do a more expanded tour utilizing the museum’s web app platform. She has a meeting next week with the consortium to discuss promotion of the video. Commissioner Provinzino mentioned a video by Geoffrey Baer on Army Trail Road. Commissioner Last offered to look to acquire a copy for the museum.

Susan reported that she is having banners for the Route 20 Centennial and USA 250 produced. The Route 20 banners are done, but Susan is having difficulty getting permission to use the national America250 logo for the other banners. She distributed Route 20 Centennial bookmarks and USA250 can cozies to the Commission.

Other Business:

Commissioner Pudelek announced that the next meeting of the Commission will be Monday, November 10, 2025. A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Navrocki and seconded by Commissioner Provinzino and approved by all. The meeting adjourned at 4:05pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan English, Museum Coordinator