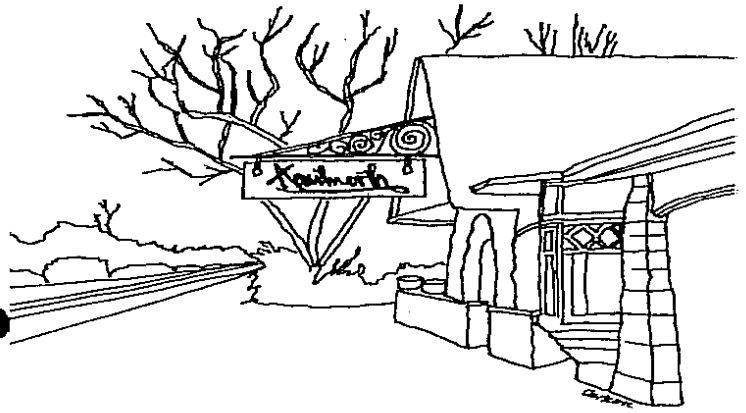


Village of

Kenilworth



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Village President
T. Tolbert Chisum

June 9, 2008

During the week of May 26, 2008, Kenilworth residents received a letter that appeared to be from the Village of Kenilworth on the topic, "Potential impacts of listing the Village of Kenilworth on the National Register of Historic Places". Due to the letter's envelope, letterhead, response email address, and the way it was written, it appeared to be sent by the Village; however, the Village of Kenilworth had no involvement with the mailing. The footnotes on the letter indicate it was mailed by The North Shore-Barrington Association of REALTORS @ (NSBAR).

NSBAR letter "...the National Register may be the first step in the development of a local historic district with local regulations..."

FACT: Neither the Village Board, nor any other Board Commission or Committee has recommended, or is considering, a local historic district. The Village Board has indicated its desire to show its resolve in not advocating a local historic district by voting on a Resolution on this topic at their June 16, 2008 Board meeting.

NSBAR letter "In Illinois, for example, the power of eminent domain may be used to acquire historic buildings, sites or structures listed on the National Register."

FACT: This statement is true. The Federal Government, the State of Illinois and its subdivisions, as well as local municipalities, school boards, utilities, and railroads all have had eminent domain power, for various reasons, for decades. The Village has the power to acquire property whether or not it is on the National Register. However, extremely high property values are just one of the reasons that the use of eminent domain is especially unlikely here.

NSBAR letter "...being listed on the National Register will trigger a higher level of scrutiny and control if the School District received state or federal money...This will hold true whether it is for Sears School, a park, or any other project within the Village receiving state or federal money."

FACT: Not true. Sears School, the parks, and Village buildings have all been determined to be "non-contributing" structures in the proposed National Register district. It is unlikely that any of the above would receive state or federal money for capital projects, but in the unlikely event they ever do, as "non-contributing" structures, they would not undergo a formal architectural review.

NSBAR letter “If additional regulations are imposed subsequent to being listed on the National Register, then property values will most likely decrease.”

FACT: A non-regulatory National Register district is not a precursor to any type of regulations. According to the Village consultant who has worked on Kenilworth's historic district nomination, studies have all shown historic districts increase property values or, at worst, cause no change. There are historic districts up and down the North Shore that exemplify this.

NSBAR letter “...a significant amount of staff time and Village resources will be expended. Professional and staff resources will be used at a cost to taxpayers...”.

FACT: Not true. The National Register is an “honor roll” of properties; there are no regulations or regulatory bodies associated with the listing. Therefore no significant staff time or resources will be expended as a result of listing.

NSBAR letter “...listing on the National Register will result in the distribution of information that is not always easily accessible. Copies of deeds, property assessments, tax lists, and other identifying public information will be made accessible to all persons involved in the nomination process.”

FACT: Not true. There is no “distribution” of personal information involved with the National Register process. The information mentioned is already publicly available online, and/or published in the newspaper annually, as in the case of tax lists.

Other misleading and incorrect emails and handouts about the National Register have been distributed within the Village. Please make sure the information you rely upon comes from reliable sources, or call or email the Village to verify that information is correct. You may contact Village Hall at (847)251-1666 or info@villageofkenilworth.org.

VILLAGE OF



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