

Save the Tabernacle

P.O. Box 725
Freeport, IL 61032
815-541-4031



January 30, 2020

Dear Freeport Park Board Commissioners,

The very real prospect of tearing down this beautiful and historic building, the Oakdale Tabernacle, has truly raised awareness in our community and has galvanized support to preserve it.

Since the vote to declare the Tabernacle surplus property our Facebook group has grown from around 100 members to 575 as I write this proposal. A website has been made and fundraising started. I am amazed by the citizen's response and their support and commitment to stay involved.

At this time I am going to propose what I hope is a way forward. I am asking you to not accept any of the demo bids and instead let the building stand and be brought back into usable condition. To that end, I will commit our group to taking on the financial needs of the Tabernacle, through a non-profit, in the following ways.

1. Fundraise for the repair and maintenance of the Tabernacle.
2. Cleaning and preparing the building for use.
3. Working with the Park Board on marketing and scheduling.
- 4 Opening and closing the building

This would all be done through a Tabernacle committee working closely together with the Park Board. The relationship could be revisited in a year but we are looking forward to working with you and making this possible for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Ed Klein