

Save the Tabernacle

The Tabernacle at Oakdale needs your help

The Freeport Park Board of Commissioners needs to hear from YOU!

They took a vote on January 7th to make the Tabernacle surplus property. They were in **violation of the Open Meetings Act** because they did not properly notify the public. They have forged ahead and awarded the lowest bid for the Tabernacle's demolition. The Tabernacle could be erased from our community very soon if you do not get involved immediately by calling the Park District!



The SAVE THE TABERNACLE group opposes the Park District's actions and have submitted proposals to take over the expense of repairing and maintaining the Tabernacle which the Board has ignored. The group needs your help in demanding new public meetings about the future of this cherished part of the history of Stephenson county and our Freeport Park District.

\$1,300,000 vs \$100,000

The Tabernacle basically needs a roof, some boards, and paint. Even considering the Park has to pay "prevailing wage" it's hard to imagine one could spend 1.3 million or even 2 million, as Ken Collin told the reporter on Channel 23, on January 7th, on the Tabernacle. This inflated estimate was produced by a Chicago company that was a **"pie in the sky", "if you want all the bells and whistles"** kind of estimate.

The Save the Tabernacle group has a roof estimate of 58K. We have dozens of skilled people that have already volunteered to spend their time helping with repairs and paint. We have farmer friends with steam cleaners and lifts. We have people experienced in fund raising. There is no question we would be able to have the building open by this summer. The Commissioners won't even discuss our offers.

www.SavetheTabernacle.com

Park District Commissioners Contacts

Deb Schwartz and Ken Collin are the solid no's as far as we know.

George Yarzak is the swing voter that could come around to a yes if we give him the reason and space to do so. He needs to be assured the Save the Tabernacle group is capable of raising the money for repairs and of caring for the Tabernacle. We would even consider a time limit to prove it to them.

Dana Stewart and Tom Jungen are on our side. Thank them and encourage them to reach out to George.

So far the Commissioners have ignored our pleas and are not answering their emails. We are asking you to send correspondence also to the Park District PO Box or drop it off at their office to be sure they are getting your. You have to hurry. The revote is Tuesday, Feb 18.

This is terrible PR for the Park District and they have created it. It may affect them for a long time, if this isn't addressed in our favor.

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**Tell them we need the Park's Attorney present at the next vote.
No more repeats of the last meetings!**

What can I do to help?

1. Join *Friends of the Freeport Park District* on Facebook. We need to grow the numbers and it's the best place to find the latest information.
2. Go to our website - www.savethetabernacle.com
3. **Join the email list on the website to get breaking news.**
4. Attend the next Park Board meeting on **Tuesday February 18th at 6:30 p.m.** **Protest before the meeting at 6:00 pm. We just learned the Commissioners will be voting a special ordinance that night because of their illegal vote. We need everybody that cares about this to show up Tuesday night. #ShowUp**
5. Share updates with family and friends. Help spread the word!
6. Pledge if you can to help us. Forms are on the website. address is above.
7. Call and email the Board Commissioners and the Park District office, contact. Include a demand the Park's Attorney's be present at the next meeting.