

**MEETING MINUTES  
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION  
APRIL 11, 2018**

**CALLED MEETING TO ORDER: CHAIRMAN KLEMMER 7:30 p.m.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Steve Olson, Bryan Brincat, Ken Klemmer, Melanie Goerke, Gania Kandalraft, Michael Hegarty

Angeline Lawrence, HDC Liaison

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Paul Sewick

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**MOTION BY: HEGARTY  
SUPPORT BY: BRINCAT**

TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF APRIL 11, 2018, AS SUBMITTED.

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0-0

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Welcome new HDC commissioner, Melanie Goerke.**

The Historic District Commission welcomed new member Melanie Goerke. Commissioner Goerke introduced herself and gave the commission information about her background.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**A. Approval of narrative for HD #212 Emmett Green House Historic Marker**

Chair Klemmer reviewed the draft text created by commissioner Sewick. Commissioners did not see issues with the narrative text. The commission then discussed the Historic Marker text. Commissioner Kandalraft advised the text included information mostly about the homeowners, but lacks information about the house. Chair Klemmer suggested removing the sentence “He lived in California during the gold rush, from October 1851 to May 1853.” and inserting information about the architecture. Commissioner Olson questions the use of “two-family dwelling” versus “duplex.” If they mean the same thing, the term “duplex” can be used to decrease the character count. HDC Liaison Lawrence reviewed previous marker orders to locate character limit for the marker. The current character count is 545 and the marker character limit is 784. Commission agreed to keep all the text in the draft and to add in the information describing the architecture about the home. Chair Klemmer suggested Ms. Lawrence inform the homeowner of the updated narrative and historic marker text.

**Motion to approve the narrative text as written and historic marker text as revised during the meeting.**

**MOTION BY:** OLSON  
**SUPPORT BY:** GOERKE

TO APPROVE THE NARRATIVE DRAFT FOR HD#212 AS SUBMITTED WITH MINOR CHANGES.

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0-0

**B. Installation of Historic Marker for HD #314 William Gates House.**

HDC Liaison Lawrence informed commission that marker has arrived. She suggested having a ceremony for the installation. Ms. Lawrence will contact homeowner and city publicist for a press release. Ms. Lawrence will coordinate date for ceremony.

**Motion to approve the ceremony of HD #314 marker installation.**

**MOTION BY:** KANDALAFT  
**SUPPORT BY:** HEGARTY

TO APPROVE THE COORDINATION OF HD #314 MARKER INSTALLATION CEREMONY.

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0-0

**POINTS OF INTEREST/UPDATES:**

**PRESERVATION FARMINGTON SPRING LECTURE APRIL 27TH:**

Chair Klemmer shared information about the upcoming lecture. It will be located at the Spicer House at 7:30 p.m., and the topic is about kit homes.

**AGING HOMEOWNERS GUIDE TO SELLING AND PROTECTING PROPERTIES**

HDC Liaison Lawrence informed commissioners that several homeowners, who are widowers, are coming to city about wanting to down size or sell their homes. One homeowner, who owns a historically designated home, wants to know if she can do anything to protect the home from being demolished in the future. These homeowners are aging and Ms. Lawrence believes it is a good idea to bring attention to the uniqueness of the homes in the area, and be able to protect the historic district. Commissioner Klemmer suggests getting help to publicize homes for sale with newspaper article.

**HD #510 FRANK STEELE HOME**

HDC Liaison Lawrence informed the commission that the homeowner wants to tear down the shed on the property. The shed is not historic and does not contribute to the historic district property. Commissioner Olson pointed out that even though the shed does not contribute to the historic property, all historic district homeowners should still go through the proper process of obtaining approval from the Historic District Commission for any changes.

Commission agrees that the homeowner should submit an application to the commission for approval of demolishing the shed. Homeowner does not need to come in for the meeting, but the commission is open

to approve demolition only of the shed. The city inspector was not initially aware of the need to inform the Historic District Commission regarding this matter, but is now aware. Commissioner Brincat offered to inspect the property after the shed demolition to ensure that the remaining property is not damaged.

**BUDGET FOR NEW YEAR**

HDC Liaison Lawrence informed commission of the new budget for the upcoming fiscal year. Suggestions for budget include additional workshops and lectures. The commission needs to allocate funds during the next meeting. Chair Klemmer might know someone for a plaster repair workshop.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Correspondence provided and distributed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No public comments.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

No commissioner comments.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Minutes of February 14, 2018 Commission Meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Hegarty suggests fixing the misspelling of his name.

**Motion to approve the Minutes of the February 14, 2018 Historic District Commission with minor adjustments.**

**MOTION BY: BRINCAT  
SUPPORTED BY: OLSON**

To approve the minutes as submitted with minor revisions.

**MOTION CARRIED: 6-0-0**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairperson Klemmer declared the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

KEN KLEMMER – CHAIR

/kk/al/