

**MINUTES
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
CITY HALL – COMMUNITY ROOM
APRIL 10, 2024 – 6:30 P.M.**

The Farmington Hills Historic District Commission meeting was called to order by Chair Tulas at 6:31pm.

Members Present: Tulas, Klemmer, Thomson, Howard, Trafelet, Olson, Paulson

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Kris Canty (Planning & Community Development Department),
Valerie Knol (Farmington Hills City Councilwoman)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trafelet requested to approve agenda with the addition of a budget discussion to the New Business. Support by Steve Olson.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Preservation Month (May)

Chair Tulas suggested a few workshop ideas to promote the Historic District Commission and preservation efforts. She was in contact with Ellen Schnackel to potentially host workshops at the Spicer House. (Some ideas for workshops include Window repair/restoration workshop, Historic interiors, Roofing – connected to Spicer roof, Researching your historic home, Plaster repairs). She was in contact with Dale Carlson about coming in as a hired speaker to highlight local history. We could use SHPO as a resource for materials.

Klemmer mentioned that the last workshop offered by the Commission was on window repair and it might be best to select a new topic for this time.

Paulson suggested perhaps matching this effort up with the move of the Farmington Hills historic museum to the Spicer House.

Klemmer suggested matching the event with the annual Farm Days festival (3rd Friday in September).

Olson suggested sending a mailer announcing the event to all the district property owners.

Klemmer, Howard, Thomson, and Marleen Tulas will work on a committee to move this event forward.

OLD BUSINESS

Budget

The commission highlighted the following project items needing funding:

1. Continued work at cemeteries.
2. Create a preservation plan for Spicer House
3. Tarping of Nehemiah Hoyt house.

Valerie Knol requested that the Commission submit a one-page letter detailing the budget request to the Council.

Budget meetings will be held on the 14th and 16th of May.

Olson reported that he had contact from the cemetery preservation group out of UM Flint regarding possible work at Utley.

Trafelet discussed the expansion and restoration of 12-mile road and its impact on Utley cemetery.

POINTS OF INTEREST/UPDATES

Nehemiah Hoyt House (36668 Howard) Update

Olson shared his report and photos of the visit to the home. The house does have significant damage in the kitchen due to a tree falling through the roof. Most of the house is dry and the foundation is solid. The home is restorable, but the economics might not be favorable.

Kris Canty provided a summary of the next steps coming from the city. The property owner is living at the American House. The owner is claiming that they do not own the house. The city is likely to start issuing tickets to the owner.

Blue Book Edits

Kris Canty reported that the Blue Book edits have been completed and they are ready for printing and then insertion into the binders. New paper is needed to complete the printing.

Historic Property Inventory

The Commissioners filled their names onto the property sheet to be assigned properties to monitor.

Cemetery Work Sessions

April 20th and May 4th are two upcoming workdays. Scout troops are coming on both days. Both workdays are at Utley. The April 20th event will involve an unveiling of the new sign and a photo shoot with the mayor. West Cemetery – David Carter is coming to do work at the site.

Thomson reported that Matt Malone continues to edit and upload the data collection materials from the Schoolcraft College history course.

Mid-Century Modern Designations

Paulson reported that there has been little response to invitations asking homeowners to add their property to the Historic District. The Commission will look at photos of the house at 29833 Woodbrook, at a future meeting, for possible inclusion in the Historic District.

CORRESPONDENCE

Quotes for cemetery work were received. The correspondence was given to Olson.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

TULAS: Tulas reported that the Farmington Hills Museum is planning to move to the Spicer House.

KLEMMER: None.

THOMSON: None.

PAULSON: None.

TRAFELET: Trafelet reported that Olson, Tulas, and himself are meeting on April 11th with representatives from the Cemetery Coalition Meeting from Oakland County to report on the work that has been done at the Farmington Hills cemeteries.

OLSON: None.

HOWARD: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – (MARCH 13, 2024)

Motion to approve minutes made by Klemmer, supported by Steve Olson.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Thomson to adjourn the meeting, supported by Trafelet.

MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

7:46 PM

Submitted by Alec Thomson (April 15, 2024)