

MEETING MINUTES

FARMINGTON HILLS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

City of Farmington Hills

November 11, 2015

7:30 p.m.

Farmington Hills City Hall

Fountain View Room

31555 Eleven Mile Rd.

Farmington Hills, MI www.fhgov.com

248-871-2540

1. CALLED TO ORDER BY: Chairman Willyard at 7:38 p.m.
2. MEMBERS PRESENT: Lee Cox, John Scott, Sherrie Stewart, John Willyard
MEMBERS ABSENT: Pam Correll, Al Moehlman
LIAISON TO HERITAGE & HISTORY MUSEUM: Brian Golden: Present
OTHERS PRESENT: No guests
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Scott made a **motion** to accept as written, 2nd by Cox; approved 4-0
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Cox noted that John Scott's name should be added to those absent; then made a **motion** to accept the minutes of October 14, 2015 as corrected. Stewart 2nd; approval 4-0
5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
 - A. Museum Accession/De-accession Reviews
No report
 - B. Museum Improvement
 1. Golden spoke with Steve Schneeman, who teaches at Lawrence Tech regarding a plan for redesigning the museum interior.
 2. After the holidays, Schneeman will recommend a student to take on the project.
 3. Golden stated that he will be applying for an intern from WSU through Liz Kirstens, the executive director of the Plymouth Historical Museum, to assist with cataloging museum accessions.
 - C. Membership
No report.
 - D. Brick Walk Brick Sales
 1. Golden reported having eleven orders for bricks.
 2. Discussion followed; Golden will process the existing orders.

3. He will pursue having Elsie Price assigned to install the bricks.

E. Stollberg Memorial

1. Stewart stated that she was unable to find any wooden or wrought iron benches at any local stores; they've all been put away for the winter
2. She will wait to have the bronze plaque printed because the 5"x 8" size may need to be altered once the bench is chosen.
3. Willyard researched years of membership. He reported the following:
 - a. The first meeting of the FHHC was held 4/9/1975 with members Kay Briggs, Floyd Cairns, Nelda Czubiak, Jean Fox, Gwen Grinager, Bob McConnell, Bob Rowe, Al Moehlman, and Stella Styre. They elected Cairns as Chair, Briggs as Vice Chair, and Czubiak as Secretary.
 - b. Kay Briggs was later Chair, and served through May 2003. She was Corresponding Sec. for June 2003 only
 - c. Jean Fox was a member through November 1990, then Council Liaison from January 1991 through October 1991, then Consultant from November 1991 through February 1995.
 - d. **Ann Stolberg** was a member from March 2006 through February 2012.
4. Willyard passed out business cards for his website www.farmjohnphoto.com

Editor's Note: This site is a wonderful asset to our community as it includes vintage photographs of early families, photographs of historical buildings as they were moved/or documented where they stood, and copies of the Farmington Historical Commission minutes back to it's inception.

F. Historical Markers

- i. Stuart Little Sign being repaired- Cox has spoken with both Wright and Lovett about having a buffer of stones placed around the base to prevent it from happening a third time. A heliarc process was mentioned to repair signs.
- ii. Pasadena Park- on hold.
- iii. Palmer Sherman House- Waiting on Golden to obtain deed information from the county.

G. Publications

1. Golden shared that the book his wife has written, is on a "print by demand" basis. The title is *Farmington: A Women's History*.
2. Willyard stated that his wife purchased the book at Founders and has enjoyed it.

6. NEW BUSINESS

7. Points of Interest/Updates

- A. Stewart shared an article from *The Farmington Press* announcing the reissue of the bimonthly *Michigan History for Kids* published by the Historical Society of Michigan.
- B. Golden restated that he would like to develop a plan to promote Heritage Tourism. He said he'd like to create a "reason for people to come here." He described doing cemetery tours in Farmington, Farmington Hills, and Plymouth; also that people came from Canada to attend the interurban tours when he'd led them. Chair Willyard encouraged members to think about possible offerings to discuss in January, e.g. revisiting the signage idea for self-guided tours.
- C. Cox spoke of celebrating the life of a 95 year old uncle who was a cousin of Kay Briggs.

8. Correspondence

- FHHDC Minutes of September 9, 2015
- FHHDC Agenda for November 11, 2015
- FHHC Expenditure Report dated 11.11.15

9. Public Comments

10. Commissioner's Comments

- A. Golden played P.D. Warner during the Ghost Walk at the Warner Museum; people attended from St. Clair Shores.
- B. Willyard will meet with Dave Teitmeyer and Don Millington the week of the eighteenth to discuss a video about the Orange Risdon map to generate sales.
- C. Willyard to write the city a letter regarding liaison assignment
- D. Noted that the HDC is planning a Historic Home Tour for May of 2016.

11. **Liaison Action Items**

- a. Museum Steps Railing progress
- b. Find out if/what we owe the HDC for the post used to re-install Buckhorn Corners marker
- c. Facilitate charge process with city for the Brick Sales.
- d. Follow through on the letter to historic home owners to encourage involvement in city

historical commissions.

- e. Stuart Little sign has been damaged twice during lawn mowing. Please facilitate park administration/employees in creating a buffer around the base.
- f. When the HDC does not meet, consider attending the FHHC meeting as you are our liaison.
- g. If there is no correspondence for us, leave a report with Mr. Cox to that effect;

12. Adjournment: Chairman called the meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Next meeting: January 13, 2015

Location: TBD

Respectfully submitted,

Sherrie Stewart,

Recording Secretary