

MEETING MINUTES  
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION  
DECEMBER 13, 2017

**CALLED MEETING TO ORDER: CHAIRMAN KLEMMER 7:35 p.m.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Steve Olson, Bryan Brincat, Michael Hegarty, Ken Klemmer, Gania Kandalaft, Paul Sewick

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

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

TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF DECEMBER 13, 2017, AS SUBMITTED.

**MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Fill Commission vacancy left by Joan Barber.**

With the departure of commission member, Joan Barber, the Historic District Commission will need to fill the opening with a new member. Commission will direct HDC Liaison, Angeline Lawrence, to create and mail a letter to historic district property owners notifying them of vacancy and opportunity for a new member.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**A. 2017 boards and commissions ordinance requirements - approval of revised bylaws**

Chair Klemmer reviewed the new by-laws created by the city. The new by-laws suggested including certain requirements, such as adding alternate members, which the commission does not believe should be in the HDC by-laws. The HDC was able to bypass those requirements. The drafted text in red is revisions completed by the City's lawyers. The commissioners question the formal requirement that restricts appointments for the chairperson to two years. Commissioner Brincat suggested adding an amendment since the commission does not have much changeover. The commission agreed with his suggestion. Commissioner Olson suggested that the HDC can vote for yearly appointment instead. Olson asked for clarification on appointment voting, in article V, about the 30 day legal requirement. Commission suggested to remove "..., except that a member shall not be eligible to serve more than two (2) successive terms as chairperson." from the bylaws.

**Motion to approve the Historic District Commission by-laws as currently presented with changes noted, with the exception of article V.**

**MOTION BY: OLSON**  
**SUPPORT BY: HEGARTY**

TO APPROVE THE NEW COMMISSION BY-LAWS DRAFT AS SUBMITTED WITH MINOR CHANGES.

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

**B. Approval of narrative for HD #314 Historic Marker.**

Ken Klemmer created the proposed wording for HD #314 Historic Marker. Commissioner Sewick questioned whether to spell out numbers below 10 depending on limited character count. Commissioner Olson suggested adding “1920’s” time period to describe garage. Commission rephrased last sentence of description.

**Motion to approve the draft text as proposed with revisions as noted for the HD #314 William Gates House Historic Marker.**

**MOTION BY:** KANDALAFT  
**SUPPORT BY:** OLSON

TO APPROVE THE DRAFTED TEXT.

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

**C. Review narrative for HD #311 John Glick Home and Pottery Plaque.**

Commissioner Olson shared information found on John Glick. The property owner holds more significance, rather than the property. The proposed sign is not a typical historic marker, but more to be posted on building. Commissioner Olson suggested telling the current property owner that the commission wants to update their sign. The commission recommended replacing the post of the current marker at the time of installation and using a welded backer plate for the sign. Staff Liaison Lawrence is to inform property owner the HDC received quote for sign. The quote showed the text option and a \$570 cost.

**Motion to approve the draft text as proposed with minor revision as noted for the HD #311 John Glick Home and Pottery plaque.**

**MOTION BY:** HEGARTY  
**SUPPORT BY:** OLSON

TO APPROVE THE DRAFTED TEXT AS PROPOSED WITH MINOR REVISION.

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

**Motion to approve the plaque from Paul Zimmerman Foundries quote from December 03, 2017, requesting to change the color from brown to match the Farmington Hills green.**

**MOTION BY:** OLSON  
**SUPPORT BY:** HEGARTY

TO APPROVE THE QUOTE FROM PAUL ZIMMERMAN FOUNDRIES WITH A REQUEST TO CHANGE THE PLAQUE COLOR.

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

**POINTS OF INTEREST/UPDATES:**

**INFORMATION REGARDING REINSTATEMENT OF STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION TAX CREDIT:**

Ken Klemmer shared information regarding the reinstatement of historic preservation tax credits.

**Motion to support resolution of reinstatement of Senate Bill No. 469.**

**MOTION BY:** OLSON  
**SUPPORT BY:** KANDALAFT

TO SUPPORT THE RESOLUTION OF REINSTATEMENT OF SENATE BILL No. 469.

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

**UPDATE ON EXISTING HISTORIC MARKERS:**

Commissioner Olson updated the commission about requirements for his sign. Staff Liaison Lawrence informed Olson that he needed to have his marker 15 feet from his existing driveway. Location is yet to be determined.

At the next meeting, commission will get update on HD #212 Addis Emmett Green House.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Correspondence provided and distributed.

Dues to renew membership with National Trust for Historic Preservation.

**Motion to continue membership to National Trust for Historic Preservation.**

**MOTION BY:** OLSON  
**SUPPORT BY:** BRINCAT

TO SUPPORT THE MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL OF THE NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No public comments.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Olson inquired about the correspondence about the HD# 308 Apple Barn on Halsted. Chair Klemmer drove by and noticed nothing different since last meeting.

Chair Klemmer talked to CEO of Evangelical Homes of Michigan about the Sarah Fisher property. EHM plans to come in to meet the HDC around February to give an update about their plans. They are currently going through a marketing study. There are a number of roof failures on some of the historic buildings, which EHM have started to stabilize. They want to keep statues, but take them down to store and preserve them, as well as the stone plaques.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Minutes of October 11, 2017 Commission Meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Olson asked about printing minutes double sided instead of single sided sheets.

**Motion to approve the Minutes of the October 11, 2017 Historic District Commission.**

**MOTION BY:** HEGARTY

**SUPPORTED BY:** KLEMMER

To approve the minutes as submitted with minor revisions (typo).

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

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairperson Klemmer declared the meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

KEN KLEMMER – CHAIR

/kk/al/gk