



HIGHLAND PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Robert B. Blackwell Municipal Building
12050 Woodward Avenue
Highland Park, Michigan 48203
313-252-0050 x257

**PUBLIC MEETING OF HIGHLAND PARK
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
Highland Park Fire Station, 25 Gerald, Highland Park, MI
24 October 2022
5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.**

OFFICIAL MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER - 5:35PM

The meeting was hosted by Chair Zobel in the Highland Park Fire Station and also called to order by Chair Zobel, roll call was performed by Secretary Harris

Commissioners Present: Anne Zobel - Chair, Jeffrey Harris-Secretary, Commissioner Arthur Williams, Commissioner Donya Clowney, Commissioner Anthony Askew

Commissioners Absent: Malika Pryor - Vice Chair [excused], Commissioner Debbie Morrison [unexcused]

Other: Angela Lugo-Thomas

The August 2022 Minutes were brought to the table for approval. Commissioner Clowney motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Secretary Harris. Motion passed unanimously at 5:36

REPORT FROM COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (CED) DIRECTOR – 5:37PM

Chair Zobel did not have any updates or comments directly related to any of the topics the CED Director may have discussed. She did mention a few pieces of relevant information. First, the MEDC WRAP program was not awarded to Carlo Liburdi, the investor potentially purchasing the Ford Administration Building. Also, the committee working on the McGregor Library is currently putting together it's community engagement utilizing the KIP-D funds it has received.

HIGHLAND PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Chair: Commissioner Anne Zobel

Vice Chair: Commissioner Malika Pryor

Secretary: Commissioner Jeffrey Harris
Commissioner Anthony Askew

Commissioner Arthur Williams

Commissioner Debbie Morrison

Commissioner Donya Clowney

PROPERTY REQUESTS – 5:39PM

None

MICHIGAN STATE PRESERVATION OFFICE (SHPO) - CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAM (CLG) – 5:39PM

Chair Zobel attended the Historic District Commissioner Training in Livonia on August 8th, 2022 hosted by Michigan SHPO. At this training, the hosts handed out manuals designed to assist historic district commissioners deal with property requests (primarily). Anne picked up a few of these for the commission and will be attempting to secure a few more copies so everyone may have one.

The CLG grant program application period is open; letters of intent are due on February 1st, 2023. The HDC can apply for many different types of grants, as discussed in prior meetings, and Anne would like us to identify which grants we should apply for as soon as possible. Donya suggests submitting the letters of intent to SHPO by their December “pre-approval” deadline. Commissioners will utilize a google document to list out any suggestions they have for use of grant funds by November 1st, 2022.

Grant application suggestions made during the meeting are as follows. Anthony suggests that the HDC could use the money to survey historic buildings that could be placed under the protection of the city’s HDC. Donya added that the MI SHPO could come out and perform a cursory review, and the grant money could then be used for more specific and serious analysis (such as the feasibility of protecting a structure). Arthur mentioned grant money being used to host more workshops for property owners within the city. Anne and Jeff would like to apply for funds to help restore or protect the McGregor Library.

Lastly, Anne reports that the HP HDC has complimentary membership in the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions.

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT – 6:16PM

This morning, the HDC received a draft of the MOU from the Detroit Historical Society. Chair Zobel would like to ensure that there is verbiage related to the project being a non-commission entity reporting to the city through the HDC. Anne, Donya and Angela (three members of the project) continued making revision suggestions prior to sending the document over to the city’s lawyer for review.

Donya provides an update related to the project’s October 4th, 2022 meeting. The project is able to borrow two recorders from the DHS, and utilize the DHS’s recording rooms Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. The DHS suggests that the project conduct no more than 3 interviews in a day per interviewer. They also recommend the project not conduct group interviews.

Anne asks that any further suggestions and edits to the MOU be sent to her by the end of the day October 26th. Donya and Angela will let all project members know when the practice run is.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – 6:41PM

Secretary Harris received a copy of the Historical Survey conducted in Highland Park in 1984

from Alan with MI SHPO, and will be forwarding it to the commissioners. This survey was the precursor to the study that ultimately led to many areas of Highland Park being recorded as historic by the Department of the Interior

ADJOURNMENT – 6:46PM

Meeting was adjourned at 6:46PM

- The next Historic District Commission will be held on November 28th, 2022.