

Pleasant Ridge Historical Commission

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 7, 2015

1. Meeting was called to order 7:01 pm by John Wright, Vice Chair.
2. In attendance: Cathie Gillis, John Wright, Conrad Stack, James Koeppen, John Horvat, Jessica Herzig, Don Hoefler, Amy Drealan and Ann Perry. Guests: none. Missing: Carole Zupan, Sandy Johnstone and Bret Scott.
3. Consideration of December 3, 2014 meeting minutes: Motion to approve by James Koeppen, second by Jessica Herzig.
4. Public discussion: Nothing to report.
5. Consideration of the presentation by Scott Pietrzak regarding the usage of historical museum equipment: Discussion delayed to the February meeting. One option is to hook up the computer to the City Hall Wi-Fi.
6. Treasurer's report for December 2014 by Don Hoefler: Revenues: \$40.02; Expenditures: \$1,976.95; Ending balance: \$3,862.19. Motion to approve by Cathie Gillis, second by Conrad Stack.
7. Consideration of the request for absences in March and April by Jessica Herzig: Motion to approve by Cathie Gillis, second by Don Hoefler.
8. Consideration of the following updates:
  - a. Speakers Series:
    - i. John Wright will facilitate a discussion on January 15, 2015 on "25 Years of 696 Speaker Series, Before & After". We have over 100 pictures in a PowerPoint, construction surveys, artifacts and video footage. December 14, 2014 was the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 696.
    - ii. John Wright reported that the presentation is coming along and he has plenty of material. There will be a microphone set up and the session will be recorded and posted online. John will have a T-Shirt for the only run/walk on 696 which was before it opened to traffic. The T-Shirt will be donated to the museum.
    - iii. "Not in my backyard" discussion and a look at what was torn down in Pleasant Ridge for 696.
    - iv. Former Pleasant Ridge Mayor, Ralph A. Castelli Jr. will also speak about 696 and how it impacted Pleasant Ridge.
    - v. We will get a cake, coffee and cookies for the celebration.
    - vi. Several pending ideas for future speaker series: Invite writer Dan Austin to talk about his book "Lost Detroit". Invite PR resident, journalist and writer Charlie LeDuff to present. Invite Michigan radio personality and journalist Jack Lessenberry to talk about former Michigan Attorney General Frank Kelley.
  - b. Home and Garden Tour:
    - i. June 6<sup>th</sup> 2015 will be the date for the next Pleasant Ridge Home and Garden Tour.
    - ii. No list of homes yet, waiting for the weather to improve.

- iii. Consider adding a business this year such as Lee Hart's which is going under massive improvements.
9. Consideration of the election of the following Historical Commission offices to serve 1 year terms:
  - a. Chair: Don Hoefler. Motion by Cathie Gillis, second by John Wright and all approve.
  - b. Vice Chair: Carole Zupan. Motion by Don Hoefler, second by Cathie Gillis and all approve.
  - c. Treasurer: John Horvat. Motion by Don Hoefler, second by Cathie Gillis and all approve.
  - d. Secretary: James Koeppen. Motion by Cathie Gillis, second by Don Hoefler and all approve.
10. Consideration of the City Commission Liaison Report:
  - a. Ann Perry updated us about the park improvements. Play scape is completed. Pass cards for restrooms at Gainsboro Park are pending. Landscaping will be done in the spring.
  - b. Grants will be sought for the 2015 improvements. Replacing the fence will be the highest priority.
  - c. Park improvements will take about two years to be fully completed.
  - d. The East side will vote on permit parking to help with the overflow of parking due to businesses East of Woodward. Plan is to have residents buy parking permits, need 67% to pass. (By impacted area, by street.) Businesses will have to use city lots or their own parking lots.
  - e. There will be public hearings regarding requests for 'Big Foot Homes' and 'Accessory Dwelling Units'.
  - f. Water billing changes are being discussed and will be addressed in public meetings and outreach programs.
11. Other Business:
  - a. Police Booth/Pleasant Ridge Museum service on third Saturday of the month
    - i. January 17, 2015: Conrad Stack and Cathie Gillis.
    - ii. February 21, 2015: John Wright and Sandy Johnstone
12. Adjournment at 7:55 pm. Motioned by Don Hoefler, second by Conrad Stack.