

Pleasant Ridge Historical Commission

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 3, 2016

1. Meeting was called to order 7:04 pm by Don Hoefler, Chair.
2. In attendance: Cathie Gillis, Jessica Herzig, Don Hoefler, John Horvat, Sandy Johnstone, James Koeppen, Conrad Stack and John Wright. Missing: None. Also in attendance: City Clerk - Amy Drealan, City Commission Liaison - Bret Scott, Guest - Douglas Mooney.
3. Consideration of January 6, 2016 meeting minutes: Motion to approve by Jessica Herzig, second by John Wright. All in favor. One correction noted: Jessica Herzig was voted as Vice Chair, not John Wright.
4. Public Comments – Items not on the Agenda: N/A
5. Treasurer’s report for January 2016 by John Horvat: Revenues: \$25.00; Expenditures: \$56.23; Ending balance: \$7,697.08. Motion to approve by Jessica Herzig, second by James Koeppen. All in favor.
6. Consideration of the Historical Commission updates:
 - a. Speaker Series
 - i. There are no confirmed speakers at this time, so we will not request a date from City Hall. The following are ideas we have been tossing around:
 - ii. Don Hoefler and James Koeppen met with Dave and Sandra Smith on Oxford and obtained the remaining videos that aired on the cities government channel. They brought up the subject of the Smith’s doing a speaker series and they are thinking it over. Don Hoefler will contact Scott Pietrzak who has the rest of the videos which we believe may have been digitized.
 - iii. James Koeppen will reach out to Dan Austin who wrote “Forgotten Landmarks of Detroit” or Gregory C. Piazza who wrote “A History of Detroit Palmer Woods” to see if they have interest.
 - iv. There is a strong interest by residents to learn how to research their homes. We discussed doing a field trip to learn ourselves. We would include information on how to research your home through the Burton Historical Collection at the Detroit Public Library and Oakland County records in Pontiac.
 - v. Andrew Mutch writes a blog about southeastern Michigan Sears kit homes. Specific to Pleasant Ridge, he has confirmed two homes are Sears kit homes. One on Kensington and one on Devonshire. Andrew will be doing a speaker series in Huntington Woods and is willing to also do something in Pleasant Ridge.
 - b. Home and Garden Tour
 - i. June 4, 2016 will be the date for the next Pleasant Ridge Home and Garden Tour. Only 2 Kensington signed up for garden only.
 - ii. Amy Drealan will provide us with homes that asked for city permits for improvements.
 - iii. We need to start everything earlier! Homes and gardens must be 100% confirmed by the April meeting which will give us two month’s preparation time.

- iv. Jessica Herzig and John Wright have contacted individuals from Cathie Gillis' list of potentials.
Only two confirmed homes/gardens so far:
 - 1. 2 Kensington – Garden Only
 - 2. 21 Kenberton – Home & Garden
 - v. Jessica Herzig will put a post on PR PR Facebook site to try and recruit homeowners willing to put their home or garden on the tour. She will also send it to Amy Drealan so she can post on the City and Recreation Facebook sites.
- c. Historical Museum Staffing
- i. Third Saturday of the month from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm.
 - ii. Voted on \$10 donation to email home file. All in favor.
 - iii. The person holding the museum key should bring it to our monthly meeting and give to the next person opening the museum.
 - iv. The Wednesday prior to the museum opening, have someone do a Facebook post notifying residents when it will be open.
 - 1. February 20, 2016: Conrad Stack and John Wright
 - 2. March 19, 2016: Jessica Herzig and Brett Scott (Jessica has a conflict with another city event, need to find someone to take her March spot)
 - 3. April 16, 2016: John Horvat
7. Consideration of the City Commission Liaison Report:
- a. A public hearing will be held on zoning ordinances.
 - b. Dangerous animal town hall was sparsely attended. The city will enforce existing leash law more.
 - c. Douglas Mooney will be appointed to the Historical Commission in the February City Commission meeting.
8. Other Business:
- a. The March meeting and future meetings will be held at the community center. All in favor.
 - b. Discussed Detroit Free Press article about potential Michigan legislation that would potentially change Michigan designated Historic Districts. Pleasant Ridge is on the National Historic District, so this should not greatly impact us.
 - c. Don Hoefler will coordinate a full re-vamp of the Historical Commission website with Scott Pietrzak.
9. Adjournment at 7:46 pm. Motion by Don Hoefler, second by Cathie Gillis. All in favor.