

Pleasant Ridge Historical Commission

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 2, 2016

1. Meeting was called to order 7:03 pm by Don Hoefler, Chair.
2. In attendance: Cathie Gillis, Jessica Herzig, Don Hoefler, John Horvat, Sandy Johnstone, James Koeppen, Douglas Mooney and John Wright. Missing: Conrad Stack. Also in attendance: City Clerk - Amy Drealan, City Commission Liaison - Bret Scott.
3. Consideration of February 3, 2016 meeting minutes: Motion to approve by Cathie Gillis, second by Jessica Herzig. All in favor.
4. Public Comments – Items not on the Agenda: N/A
5. Treasurer’s report for February 2016 by John Horvat: Revenues: \$75.00; Expenditures: \$16.42; Ending balance: \$7,755.66. Motion to approve by Sandy Johnstone, second by John Wright. 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.
 - ii. Amy Drealan can provide us with homes that requested city permits for improvements or additions. This may help us identify additional homes to canvas.
 - 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.

We have four confirmed homes/gardens so far:

1. 2 Kensington – Garden Only
2. 21 Kenberton – Home & Garden
3. 1 Oxford - Home and Garden
4. 92 Oakdale – Home and 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. We need at least one more home to hold the tour!

c. Historical Museum Staffing

- i. Third Saturday of the month from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm or by appointment. Closed July/August.
- ii. Reminders: There is a \$10 donation/fee to email a home file. The person holding the museum key should bring it to our monthly meeting and give to the next person opening the museum. The Wednesday prior to the museum opening, have someone do a Facebook post notifying residents when it will be open. Upcoming schedule as follows:

1. March 12, 2016: Jessica Herzig (Moved up 1 week since Easter Egg Hunt is March 19th)
2. April 16, 2016: John Horvat
3. May 21, 2016: Doug Mooney (Note this is the same day as the auction)

7. Consideration of the City Commission Liaison Report:

- a. Starting process for budget reviews.
- b. The city will enforce the existing leash law more. Residence need to call Police and report owners that are walking their dogs off leash.
- c. The Exterior Design Standards were adopted in the February meeting. More information can be found on the cities website.

8. Other Business:

- a. Don Hoefler will coordinate a full re-vamp of the Historical Commission website with Scott Pietrzak.

9. Adjournment at 7:43 pm. Motion by Cathie Gillis, second by James Koeppen. All in favor.