

Pleasant Ridge Historical Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, November 2, 2016

1. Meeting was called to order 7:05 pm by Don Hoefler, Chair.
2. In attendance: Cathie Gillis, Jessica Herzig, Don Hoefler, John Horvat, Sandy Johnstone, James Koeppen and John Wright. Missing: Conrad Stack. Also in attendance: Darren Humphrey and Jay Foreman – City Commission Liaison.
3. Consideration of October 5, 2016 meeting minutes: Motion to approve by Jessica Herzig, second by Sandy Johnstone. All in favor.
  - a. Amended: Cathie Gillis was not in attendance.
4. Public Comments – Items not on the Agenda: N/A
5. Treasurer’s report for October 2016 by Don Hoefler: Revenues: \$120.00; Expenditures: \$284.59; Ending balance: \$13,549.03. Motion to approve by John Wright, second by Jessica Herzig. All in favor. (Missing \$400 Kastler/Batteries Plus in advertising revenues. Both are going to reissue their checks.)
6. Consideration of the Historical Commission updates:
  - a. 2017 Home and Garden Tour
    - i. 2017 tour date will be June 10th.
  - b. Speaker Series
    - i. There are no confirmed speakers at this time. The following are ideas we have been tossing around in the last several meetings:
    - ii. Andrew Mutch writes a blog about southeastern Michigan Sears kit homes. Specific to Pleasant Ridge, he has confirmed two homes are Sears’s kit homes. One on Kensington and one on Devonshire. Andrew did a speaker series in Huntington Woods on September 21<sup>st</sup> and is willing to also do something in Pleasant Ridge. John Wright and James Koeppen went to the presentation and it was very interesting. Becky Uber thinks there other kit homes in PR and can provide details.
      1. James Koeppen to check with Andrew Mutch on available dates after the first of the year.

- iii. John Wright discussed doing a session on the history of the Pleasant Ridge pool with Scott Pietrzak. They would like to schedule something in the summer in 2017 out by the pool.
- iv. 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.
- v. 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.
- vi. 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.

c. Museum Staffing

- i. Third Saturday of the month from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm.
  - 1. November 19, 2016 – Jessica Herzig and Cathie Gillis
  - 2. December 17, 2016 – Conrad Stack (will check availability)
- ii. The property database is available on CD for Historical Commissioners to send home files. We will also see if we can put these files in the cloud or private network so we can access from home.
- iii. General museum notes: \$10 donation to email home file. The person holding the museum key should bring it to our meeting and give to the next person opening the museum. A few days prior to the museum opening, have someone do a Facebook post notifying residents when it will be open.

d. 2017 Meetings

- i. Suggest not meeting in February, July, August and December. Darren Humphrey will take to Amy Drealan and James Breuckman for review and approval.

7. Consideration of the City Commission Liaison Report by Jay Foreman:

- a. Old structure from Gainsboro Park will be donated to Pontiac.
- b. Tennis and basketball courts won't be done until spring 2017.

- c. The leaf pickup schedule is posted on the cities website.
  - d. Electronic access to the recreation center and extending the hours TBD. (Obtaining equipment, evaluating risk and demand.)
  - e. 100 year old homes presentation and plaques will be presented at the November meeting. John Wright will present at the November 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Darren Humphrey will get pictures to Don Hoefler for PowerPoint.
8. Other Business:
- a. Centennial home article running in Detroit News, date to be determined. MetroMode is considering an online article about the Historical Commission and what we do. They interviewed Cathie Gillis, Jessica Herzig and James Koeppen.
  - b. The Christmas tree lighting is scheduled December 5<sup>th</sup>. Sandy Johnstone and Jessica Herzig will be elves this year and assist with pictures with Santa. All are welcome to join.
  - c. Luran Howard and Priscilla Eggen updated the gardens around the Historical Museum as part of the Garden Club.
  - d. Don Hoefler will coordinate a full re-vamp of the Historical Commission website with Scott Pietrzak.
  - e. Darren Humphrey provided email address and password to Don Hoefler for O365 account.
9. Adjournment at 7:48 pm. Motion by Cathie Gillis, second by James Koeppen. All in favor.