

Pleasant Ridge Historical Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 7, 2016

1. Meeting was called to order 7:06 pm by Don Hoefler, Chair.
2. In attendance: Cathie Gillis, Jessica Herzig, Don Hoefler, James Koeppen, Sandy Johnstone, Conrad Stack and John Wright. Missing: John Horvat. Also in attendance: Darren Humphrey and Bret Scott – City Commission Liaison.
3. Consideration of November 2, 2016 meeting minutes: Motion to approve by John Wright, second by Cathie Gillis. All in favor.
4. Public Comments – Items not on the Agenda: N/A
5. Treasurer's report for November 2016 by Don Hoefler: Revenues: \$235.00; Expenditures: \$25.00; Ending balance: \$13,759.03. Motion to approve by Jessica Herzig, second by Conrad Stack. All in favor. (Missing \$250 in advertising revenues. Kastler is going to reissue his check.)
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 21st 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. December 17, 2016 – Conrad Stack
 - 2. January 21, 2016 – John Wright, 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. Reappointments

- i. Jessica Herzig is up for reappointment and will stay on for her first full term.
- ii. John Horvat is up for reappointment and has declined.
- iii. Sandy Johnstone has served two full terms and is not eligible for reappointment.
 - 1. James Koeppen will coordinate a dinner to thank Sandy Johnstone for all of her years of service on the Historical Commission.
- iv. There are three openings on the Historical Commission starting in January and only a couple of applicants, continue to check with your neighbors for interest!

7. Consideration of the City Commission Liaison Report by Bret Scott:
 - a. 100 year old homes presentation and plaques will be presented by John Wright at the December 13th meeting. Presentation was reviewed in the meeting. Two homeowners have confirmed they will join.
 - b. City Hall has done Pleasant Ridge t-shirts which are available for \$25.00.
 - c. 4 Ridge will roll out electronic access cards in 2017. Hours will be 4:00 am or 5:00 am until about midnight 365 days a year. Residents would get one card that should work everywhere. Staffed hours will remain the same. Cameras will be installed in the entrance way and two in the gym area.
8. Other Business:
 - a. Centennial home article running in Detroit News, date to be determined.
 - b. MetroMode online article published. They interviewed Cathie Gillis, Jessica Herzig and James Koeppen for the article as well as other residents.
 - c. 2017 Meetings
 - i. Suggest not meeting in February, July, August and December.
 - ii. Motion to approve updated schedule by Jessica Herzig, second by John Wright. All in favor.
 - iii. Darren Humphrey will update Amy Drealan regarding the outcome of our motion. The schedule will be presented to the City Commission in January.
 - 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 7:46 pm. Motion by Conrad Stack, second by James Koeppen. All in favor.