

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMITTEE

70 Maple Street
Manistee, MI 49660

MEETING MINUTES

February 14, 2019

A meeting of the 2019 Historic District Committee was held on Thursday, February 14, 2019 at 3:00 pm in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 70 Maple Street, Manistee, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order at 3:09 by Chair Trucks.

Members Present: Richard Albee, William Connor, John Perschbacher and Lee Trucks

Members Absent: Mark Wittlieff and Aaron Bennett

Others: Tamara Buswinka (City Zoning), Mark Fedder, City Museum and Nancy Baker (Recording Secretary)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Commissioner Connor, seconded by Commissioner Albee to approve the Agenda as presented.

With a voice vote motion passed 4 to 0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Commissioner Perschbacher, seconded by Commissioner Connor that the minutes of the December 6, 2018 meeting be approved as prepared.

With a voice vote motion passed 4 to 0.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA RELATED ITEMS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

By-Laws Review

Commissioner Perschbacher requested the By-Laws include the following items:

1. Duties of the members should state that members shall avoid case contact with the petitioner. Details should be taken if a member(s) meets with those involved in a case. The detailed notes shall be presented in a meeting under Public Hearing.
2. Members of the HDC should attend training seminars several times a year to maintain their rating.

Commissioner Perschbacher recommended contacting Mary Riley, MSU Extension, to address the board on seminar information.

Commissioner Albee stated the board should work with petitioners to help get their project in compliance. A member should not speak for the entire board. He recommended contacting Mr. Saylor regarding the By-law wording.

Commissioner Trucks agreed to the recommendation of Mr. Saylor looking into the By-law language to be ensure the wording is appropriate for the community.

MOTION by Commissioner Perschbacher, seconded by Commissioner Albee to contact Mary Riley on addressing the board regarding training seminars.

With a voice vote motion passed 4 to 0.

348 River Street Permit Extension Request

Music Vault requested a year's extension on their permit. A letter stated the goal is to finish the project by May 2019 with an opening of June 2019.

Mr. Miles Amor, Amor Signs, represented Music Vault regarding their store front business sign. He presented the details of the sign with the painting update and the sign lighting.

MOTION by Commissioner Connor, seconded by Commissioner Albee to extend the permit until June 2019 for refurbishing the store front business sign with an updated painted sign including LED lighting with the understanding the permit for the sign may not be extended past this date.

With a voice vote motion passed 4 to 0.

OLD BUSINESS

Permit Review

Ms. Buswinka presented a list of 11 outstanding permits that she has located. Commissioner Connor requested an updated list of permits be made available at every meeting.

Commissioner Albee requested the addition of a column of the original permit date. Commissioner Trucks requested letters be sent to applicants of expired permits stating if they wish to reinstate their permit a new permit must be completed.

Commissioner Connor wished to have letters be sent to applicants with permits that will soon expire and include the need of the applicant to come before the board to request an extension. Commissioner Albee added the letter include a statement that if a permit was not completed within a certain timeframe the permit will not be extended. He asked for further discussion on assigning board members to an open permit project and reporting the status of the project to the board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS CONCERNING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

None

CORRESPONDENCE

Commissioner Albee recommended a Mission Statement be placed in the By-Laws. A clear definition of the purpose of the Commission should be included under the City Ordinance.

Commissioner Albee moved, seconded by Commissioner Perschbacher for the City Council to amend the City Ordinance 1208.01 Statement of Purpose include Section 399.202 Item B from the Local HDC Act 169 of 1970 to stabilize and improve property values of the district and surrounding areas.

With a Roll Call vote this motion passed 3 to 1.

Yes: Albee, Perschbacher, Trucks

No: Connor

REPORTS

Museum Director

Mr. Fedder stated the sign for the Music Vault will have similar LED lighting as the Blue Fish sign. The lampposts will have the flower pots placed on them as they have been in the past. Along with the flowers will be banners with 1869 historical photos for the city centennial. Several series of events will take place to commemorate the centennial. The history of the city with the people and organizations will be compiled and will be presented as an event. The Vogue will have an event on its history. Walking tours will be organized.

MEMBERS DISCUSSION

Commissioner Trucks spoke of the promoting a statue of a past Manistee citizen who was a civil war general as well as a past mayor of the city.

WORK SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Albee moved, seconded by Commissioner Connor to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 4:20 pm

2019 Historic Study Review Committee



Nancy Baker, Recording Secretary