
**PITTSFIELD CHARTER TOWNSHIP HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

April 3, 2019
Pittsfield Township Administration Building
6201 W. Michigan Avenue
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

MEMBERS PRESENT: Harwood, LeClair, Scribner, Wall

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Ferguson, Paas, Richards

OTHERS PRESENT: Pete Finnie

1.0 Call Meeting to Order/Determination of a Quorum

Chair Wall called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. A quorum was present.

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Wall led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.0 Roll Call

All present except Commissioner Ferguson, Vice Chair Paas, and Commissioner Richards

4.0 Open Meetings Act/Public Comment

Under the Open Meetings Act, any person may come forward at this time to address the Commission. Anyone who wishes to speak is requested but not required to state his/her name and address for the record.

5.0 Approval of Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Scribner, supported by Commissioner LeClair to approve the agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

6.0 Approval of Minutes for February 6, 2019

Motion by Commissioner LeClair, supported by Commissioner Scribner to approve the minutes as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

7.0 Scheduled Guests

Pete Finnie

8.0 Expenditures Reports

No Report

8.1 Membership to Michigan Historic Preservation Network

Chair Wall paid the \$45.00 membership fee to the Michigan Historic Preservation Network. Commissioner Scribner will submit a request for reimbursement.

9.0 Officers Reports

Chair Wall shared a flyer, **Regional Planning Workshops, Michigan's Five-Year State Historic Preservation Plan**, sponsored by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). The dates and locations of the meetings are listed. The meetings are free and open to the public.

9.1 Report on HDC Training, March 15, 2019

Chair Wall attended the Historic District Commission training CAMP (Commission Assistance & Mentoring Program), sponsored by SHPO, On March 15, 2019. The workshops focused on 1) Framework of Local Preservation, 2) Preservation Law and Procedural Due Process, 3) Planning, Survey, and Designation, 4) Design Review and Design Guidelines, and 5) Public Education and Outreach. The workshops were well attended and sparked interest for more workshops to be offered.

10.0 Member Reports

10.1 Archives

Chair Wall reported that Archivist Ann Simpson is continuing to organize the archives and currently working through the township minutes and papers of former Supervisor, Robert A. Lillie.

10.2 Sutherland-Wilson Farm – Kitchen/Parlor Renovation-Civil War Displays

Chair Wall reported that she and Vice Chair Paas met with Susan Wineberg and Patrick McCauley, authors of the book ‘Historic Ann Arbor Architecture’, at the Sutherland-Wilson Farm to evaluate the house, parlor, and chimney. It is possible that the fireplace was built in 1850 or possibly later. It appears that the fireplace was not used to heat the house. There is an indication that there was a pot belly stove in front of it for cooking. Mr. McCauley and Ms. Wineberg recommended that the fireplace remain intact and to put a stove in front of the fireplace that would reflect the time period of the house. The stove would also be a good conversation piece during the house tours. Also, there is faux marble around the fireplace that is typical of some of the houses in Ann Arbor. Ms. Wineberg and Mr. McCauley recommended retaining the hearth in the informal parlor and the original woodwork around the windows in the formal parlor. The informal parlor will be used for a Civil War display and the formal parlor will be used as a meeting room.

Vice Chair Paas will have the deteriorating back porch removed. A Certificate of Appropriateness will need to be submitted.

11.0 Old Business

11.1 Silos on Textile Road

Commissioner Scribner shared photos of the silos on Textile Road and discussed the historical significance. The commissioners agreed to proceed with contacting a representative of Avis Farms to engage their interest in preserving the silos. Commissioner Scribner will contact Avis Farms to schedule a meeting.

11.2 Letters Sent – Tax Credit Reinstatement

Chair Wall reported that the township has sent letters supporting the Reinstatement of the Michigan Historic Tax Credit, along with the Board of Trustees' Resolution #19-09, to Senator Jeff Irwin, State Representative Rebekah Warren, Nancy Winegood, Executive Director MHPN, and Mallory Bower, SE Michigan Field Representative MHPN. Commissioner Scribner has also contacted Kirk Profit and sent Resolution #19-09. In addition, Chair Wall has sent letters to the legislative committees as a representative of the Historic District Commission.

12.0 New Business

12.1 April 15, 2019 Meeting- Celebrating 100 Years of Women's Suffrage

Chair Wall shared that the League of Women Voters are organizing a celebration of 100 Years of Women's Suffrage. The organizing committee will meet on April 15, 2019 at the Ann Arbor District Library in Pittsfield Township from 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. if anyone is interested in joining the committee. The committee will plan to have a series of displays in various locations around Washtenaw County. Chair Wall would like to have a display at the Township Administration Building. She will try to attend the meeting on Monday, April 15, 2019.

13.0 Next Meeting

1 May 2019, 5:30 p.m.

14.0 Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner LeClair, supported by Commissioner Scribner to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED