

# MINUTES OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, AND BOARDS

NAME
Historic District Commission

**DATE** April 10, 2008 <u>PAGE</u>

Prepared for BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS approval at the meeting on May 21, 2008.

# WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION Minutes of Monthly Meeting

DATE: April 10, 2008 TIME: 5:30 pm

PLACE: 705 N. Zeeb Rd. Ann Arbor, MI Zeeb Rd Conference Room 2010

#### Call to Order:

• M. Churchill called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.

#### Roll Call

- <u>Present</u>: Martha Churchill, Paul Darling, Charles Gray, Peter Kelley, Jean Ledwith King, Alice Ralph, Nancy Snyder and Elmer White
- Absent: Jasper Pennington (excused)
- Staff: Patricia Denig, Mary Kowalski, and Melissa Milton-Pung of Planning & Environment
- Guests: None

# Consent Agenda Approval:

• C. Gray moved to approve the consent agenda, A. Ralph seconded and the motion carried.

#### **Public Comment** – None

#### **Business:**

- Washtenaw County Budget Update
  - P. Denig updated the Commission on the current County budget situation, explaining that the Department of Planning & Environment cannot cover the cost of food for an off-site HDC meeting due to a budget deficit.
- HDC Goals for 2008 Community Outreach Discussion

M. Milton-Pung displayed the draft posters that can be used in promotion of Local Historic Districts. She noted that the posters cost 50-80 cents each. Commissioners would like to present historic district information at township meetings. M. Milton-Pung offered to give some training to commissioners next month to prepare for such presentations.

#### • <u>HDC Awards</u> – Awards Committee

- J. Ledwith King would still like to honor Ron Sell and the LaSalle Park, and N. Snyder has nominated Rich Cook, Kelly Jones and Roy Townsend for a Swainson award for their work on the Delhi Bridge. M. Milton-Pung will find the criteria for awards and include it in the packet for next month's meeting, as well as e-mailing it to the HDC members.
- J. Ledwith King moved that Peter Kelly, Elmer White and Paul Darling be named to the Awards Committee for 2008 in addition to existing member Nancy Snyder; C. Gray seconded and the motion carried.

#### • Rawsonville School

C. Gray met with the Ypsilanti Township treasurer, who was receptive to the idea of transferring property ownership from YCUA to Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC). He spoke to Comm. Rolland Sizemore and, who expressed

reservations about PARC's financial ability to renovate the school. C. Gray has not heard back from Bob Tetens regarding his opinion on the matter, but C. Gray hopes the PARC commissioners will come on board. Three former students responded to N. Snyder's ad, and they might support the effort.

## • McCullough Farm

- C. Gray reported that the family at the farm had contacted the Township, and that the Township Board would like to move the historic building off-site so that the land can be developed. There is little that the HDC can do to preserve the site.
- P. Kelley mentioned the Flintoff School as deserving preservation. The HDC verbally agreed to have M. Milton-Pung draft a letter to the Board of Supervisors, to be edited and signed by N. Snyder.

# • Native American Trails Marker Commentary

The HDC is still trying to determine the validity of Hinsdale's map. It has not yet been determined whether they will be "HDC" markers or just "Parks and Recreation" markers.

# • Historic Designation Attachment to Deeds

M. Milton-Pung stated that she has not yet heard feedback from Larry Kestenbaum, and there was discussion over which attorney should be listed on the affidavit (most likely County Corporation Counsel).

# • May Meeting Date and Location

The Nanry House was discussed as an ideal location for the June meeting, but permission from the owner is needed. J. Ledwith King and P. Kelley both volunteered to check into it.

- M. Milton-Pung brought up the fact that the MHPN Conference will be taking place May 8-10, and therefore conflicts with the next scheduled meeting. Additionally, the Heritage Tours project has won an MHPN award, and therefore Commissioners should consider attending the awards ceremony on the 9<sup>th</sup>.
- C. Gray moved that the next meeting be held May 1, P. Kelley seconded. Motion carried.

## • Budget for the HDC

C. Gray suggested that the HDC approach Tony VanDerworp and/or Patricia Denig to request a budget for the HDC. J. Ledwith King, C. Gray and M. Churchill formed a budget committee to determine the best way to go about establishing a budget and will report at the next meeting.

#### Adjournment

A. Ralph moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Milton-Pung Principal Preservation Planner



Department of Planning & Environment Washtenaw County Government