

WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Minutes of Monthly Meeting Special Meeting

DATE: April 14, 2005

TIME: 4:30 p.m.

**PLACE: 705 Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan
Zeeb Road Room 2010**

1. **Call to Order-** Chair N. Snyder called the meeting to order at 4:35 pm.
2. **Roll Call:** Nancy Snyder, Tom Dodd, Paul Darling, Alice Ralph, Jean King, Don Riddering and staff, Marnie Paulus were present. Pat Kelly, absent.
3. **Approval of Minutes of March Meeting:** On a motion by Pennington, seconded by Dodd, the minutes were approved as amended.
4. **Approval of Agenda:** On a motion by Ralph, seconded by Darling, the agenda was approved as written.
5. **Introduction of Guests:** None
6. **Application Reviews:** None
7. **Business**

Goals for 2005: Moved by Riddering, seconded by Darling to accept 2005 goals as included in packet.

Discussion ensued about the Historic Bridge Study which King was unwilling to support as a goal. Ralph agreed to reorder the goals using an outline form and strike specific tasks such as the Saline CARES Underground Railroad grant, the Gordon Hall Roundtable and Historic Bridge Study. Ralph stated that if Planning staff were willing to devote time to a historic bridge study, she was hesitant to withdraw this item from the 2005 goals. **Riddering withdrew his motion.**

It was moved by Ralph to approve the 2005 Goals in a new format, omitting support for the Historic Bridge Study, a partnership on the CARES Underground Railroad Grant and the Gordon Hall Roundtable with the intent of folding the last item into a broader category entitled "Improve Oversight of Historic Districts." Dodd seconded and the motion carried.

E. Delhi Bridge: Tom Dodd reported on the delightful bridge assessment by iron bridge expert Vern Mesler on March 28 followed by a power point presentation at the Road Commission. Dodd was especially heartened by the community support for the

bridge in its current rural setting. The list of E. Delhi Bridge historic district study committee member was discussed.

Riddering moved that the WCHDC ask the WBCOC to approve a resolution to appoint a study committee to determine the historic significance of the E. Delhi Bridge using criteria established by the Department of Interior, National Park Service for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.(Washtenaw County Historic Preservation Ordinance #115, Section 3, B)

Discussion ensued and the following persons were recommended: Kathleen Timberlake, Robert Kyes, Scott Hedberg, Betty Lou Monticelli, Charles Unbehaun, Deb Webster, George Miller, Gary Robinson and Rich Cook as voting members, and Nancy Snyder, Jean King and a WCRC representative as advisors, and the Historic Preservation Coordinator as staff.

Dodd seconded, and the motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote.

8. Reports:

Staff Report:

HistWeb II-Paulus reported that the Bridgewater Field Survey reports are completed and ready to be mailed to the property owners for corrections, Lima Township Surveys scanned, Dexter Village almost complete. IT has worked diligently to solve website and Access database problems. Kim Wraight will link the EMU historic walking tour to the website and add the layer of historic district boundaries.

HistWeb III-Paulus is working on the project timetable and adjusted budget in anticipation of executing a contract. Don Limpert and his study committee have determined the boundary and are working to complete the field survey and survey report. The county team will begin their work in July once HistWeb II is completed.

Judd Road Bridge/Gooding House Proposed Historic District-Board Action Packet sent to leadership 4/7/05. It is scheduled to be on agenda for April 20.

HP Coordinator Job Update: There were 33 applications. The interview team met 4/7/05 to review cover letters, applications and resumes. We will guard the privacy of our applicants and keep you posted as to the progress.

Brochure: Staff has been working to update the brochure in a new format, adding the two new historic districts. Please give us your feedback.

Publicity: There has been coverage on the county HDC Historic Preservation Awards and the Historic Preservation Fund Grant Award of \$21,600 in the local newspapers.

Paulus thanked Jasper Pennington for taking notes and writing the April 7, 2005 minutes.

Treasurer's Report: \$4,092 remains in the budget.

Reports from Commissioners:

Gordon Hall Roundtable – Ralph reported that she is going to various meetings to build support for the Gordon Hall roundtable. She has attended the PAB and Mill Creek Bridge Meetings. Ralph plans to partner with County Parks and Recreation, HCMPA, DDA's, local non-profits and Dexter Village and LUG's hoping that they will partner to overcome budget and jurisdictional challenges so that UM can transfer ownership to another public entity.

Popkins School Historic District-Snyder reported on her efforts to work toward a new function for Popkins School.

Historic Markers – Dodd reported on Paulus' and his scouting trip to Sylvia Gilbert's 65-year old resource at North Lake, Dexter Township for a possible historic marker. Gilbert would like one marker for the entire area called Park Lawn Beach. She will talk to the homeowners and seek their permission

13. **Adjournment:** On a motion by Riddering, seconded by Darling, the meeting adjourned at 6:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marnie Paulus, Historic Preservation Coordinator
Washtenaw County