

WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
Minutes of Monthly Meeting

<p>DATE: November 8, 2007 TIME: 5:30 pm PLACE: 705 N. Zeeb Rd. Ann Arbor, MI Zeeb Rd Conference Room 2010</p>

Call to Order:

- N. Snyder called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

Roll Call

- Present: Martha Churchill, Paul Darling, Charles Gray, Peter Kelley, Jean Ledwith King, Jasper Pennington, Alice Ralph (via conference call), Nancy Snyder and Elmer White
- Absent: None
- Staff: Patricia Denig, Mary Kowalski and Melissa Milton-Pung
- Guests: None

Public Comment – none

Consent Agenda Approval:

- P. Darling moved to approve the consent agenda and minutes, C. Gray seconded, and the motion carried.

Business:

- **Historic District Designation Attachment to Deeds**
P. Kelley stated that he received an edited version of the document that he created from Elmer White, clarifying some language and thought that the changes would be beneficial. A. Ralph also made some suggestions, and M. Milton-Pung discussed examples of other communities that have this type of designation attached to deeds. J. Ledwith King suggested sending the form out to local realtors for their information, and C. Gray stated that he would like to see the final form before it goes out to anyone. It was decided that M. Milton-Pung would send the edited version of the document to members of the HDC, who will have one week from the receipt of the document in which to review it and add comments. If there are no objections, M. Milton-Pung will run the document by Larry Kestenbaum and Corporation Counsel. The HDC will then discuss publicizing the document at next month's meeting.
- **Proposed Historic Markers**
M. Churchill stated that Pastor Wilson liked the text proposed for the Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church, with the exception of a portion of the text that references South Africa. E. White consented to remove that portion of the text, and M. Churchill stated that she would submit the final version at the December meeting. J. Ledwith King recommended sending out a press release mentioning the HDC when the marker is put into place.

M. Churchill stated that she has not yet written the text for the Braman Hotel marker, but has sent materials on the subject to M. Milton-Pung.

- **Hinsdale Map/Native American Trails**

M. Milton-Pung demonstrated the Hinsdale map of Native American trails, and stated that she has had a conversation with Tom Freeman, of the Parks and Recreation Department. He said that it would be an honor to be involved in the project, and offered to fund and maintain markers within the Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation system. The text to be included on the markers will be run through the HDC, with consultation from Tom Freeman. M. Milton-Pung also stated that research on these trails is ongoing. N. Snyder suggested inviting Kathy Chamberlain of EMU to attend the next meeting, P. Kelley suggested contacting John Dane and Wystin Stevens to determine more about the history of the trails and map, and E. White suggested contacting the Department of Indian Affairs for the State of Michigan in order to get some members of the Native American community involved. A. Ralph suggested that this project might be a good candidate for the U-M Arts of Citizenship program, and M. Milton-Pung will set a meeting with J. Pennington to go over the resources that he has available.

M. Milton-Pung also displayed a map that indicates the Hinsdale map landmarks (trails, burial grounds, mounds, salt springs and villages) as well as current roads. There are fifteen Washtenaw County parks that are each within one mile of a feature that is indicated on the map, and several existing County roads run along the trails. M. Milton-Pung will be meeting with Parks and Recreation next week and will bring this item back for discussion at next month's meeting.

P. Kelley moved to authorize M. Milton-Pung to contact John Dann regarding the Map of Indian Trails in Washtenaw County with the idea of projecting the amount of money it would take to create a map. C. Gray seconded, and during the discussion period it was decided that this contact would be informal in nature, and that a scope would be created before creating an RFP. P. Kelley will initially contact John Dann to let him know that M. Milton-Pung will be trying to reach him. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Rawsonville School**

C. Gray stated that he met with Commissioner Sizemore at the school because YCUA is planning to tear down the building. C. Gray speculated that the school may be connected with early settlers in the area, and at this time he just wanted to bring the matter to the HDC's attention. He will do research and bring more information to the HDC, but YCUA would be charged with requesting historic designation if it is deemed to be historically significant.

- **Gordon Hall State Historical Marker Text**

M. Milton-Pung stated that she brought this matter to this meeting because she wanted to make sure that the resolution passed in May, to support the Dexter Area

Historical Society's decision, is absolutely final. M. Milton-Pung stated that she would send a letter to the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office to that effect, and would provide a copy of the letter to HDC members. The letter needs to be in before December 1.

- **HDC Protocols**

M. Milton-Pung noted that the consensus at last month's meeting was that procedures need to be put in place for HDC functions, and that through discussion with N. Snyder it was decided to address them in segments over the next few months. A. Ralph expressed concerns about possible conflicts between the Ordinance and proposed procedures. N. Snyder asked for a motion to revisit the procedures at the next HDC meeting. P. Kelley moved to table the topic until the next meeting, C. Gray seconded and the motion carried with seven ayes and one nay.

- **Potential HDC Annual Workshop Topics**

J. Ledwith King stated that she would discuss this topic at the next meeting.

Adjournment

C. Gray moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Milton-Pung
Senior Preservation Planner
Department of Planning & Environment
Washtenaw County Government