

**VILLAGE OF FRANKLIN
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, August 4, 2021, 7:00 P.M.
The Historic District Commission assembled at
Village Hall (Broughton House)
32325 Franklin Road, Franklin, MI 48025**

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The Special Meeting of the Historic District Commission was called to order by Gary Roberts, Chairman at Village Hall (Broughton House) at 7:02 P.M.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Alek Kokoszka, Gary Roberts Alex Stchekine, Jill Wilke and Laura Witty
Absent: Mike Brassfield and Gayle Timmis

Also Present: Roger Fraser, Village Administrator and Heather Mydloski, Village Clerk

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Kokoszka, seconded by Witty to adopt the Agenda, as presented.

Ayes: Alek Kokoszka, Gary Roberts Alex Stchekine, Jill Wilke and Laura Witty

Nays: None

Absent: Mike Brassfield and Gayle Timmis

Motion carried.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

Roberts requested to amend the minutes to the following:

~~(Page 3 of 6) Motion by Witty, seconded by Wilke that the application of demolition at 27281 Ovid Ct. be recommended by the Historic District Commission to the Village Council to be approved with the recommendation that the applicant adhere to the Village of Franklin Tree Preservation Ordinance and to protect any viable tree(s) in good condition finding no intrinsic historical value.~~

Motion by Witty, seconded by Wilke for the Historic District Commission, finding no intrinsic historic value, recommend approval of the demolition application at 27281 Ovid Ct. to the Village Council for their consideration; with a recommendation that the applicant adhere to the Village of Franklin Tree Preservation Ordinance and protect any viable tree(s.)

(Page 4 of 6) ~~Roberts stated that no one wants to go down that path, but if the Historic District Commission at least find out where the path is there could be trouble later.~~

Motion by Witty, seconded by Wilke to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of July 14, 2021, as amended.

Ayes: Alek Kokoszka, Gary Roberts, Alex Stchekine, Jill Wilke and Laura Witty

Nays: None

Absent: Mike Brassfield and Gayle Timmis

Motion carried.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

Roger Fraser informed the Historic District Commission (HDC) the sidewalk installations will be completed by the end of October.

Fraser asked the Commissioners of the possibility of converting the Kreger barn into a usable space for meetings and/or events. In agreement of the idea, the Commissioners responded that the historic aesthetic of the Kreger Barn is paramount, and any upgrades should work around maintaining that.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consider 32334 Franklin Rd. Fence/Gate Application

Natalya and Daniel Shub stated they would like to install a 6 ft. black wrought iron fence with an electrical fence to the rear of the property for the safety of her family where her children play in the driveway.

Preemptively, Shub contacted both Police Chief Roberts and Fried Chief Averbuch had neither had concerns. Shub said that Roberts suggested the fence be six (6) ft. high so, it may be visible from the road to motor vehicles approaching the house on the driveway. He was concerned motorist may drive through it as it would be hard to see.

Shub presented to the HDC a video showing two (2) proposed options for the fence and gate. One being simple and one more ornate. In the presentation Michigan State Tree (Dwarf), Eastern White Pines would be planted in front of the fence.

Roberts stated he likes the simpler design and feels the highly ornate gate is inconsistent architecturally with the Shub property and the Historic District in general. He stated the plantings of the Dwarf Eastern White Pines in front of the fence were an excellent choice.

Roberts asked the Commissioners their opinion of the submitted fence designs; and all were in favor of a simpler fence design and the plantings of the Dwarf Eastern White Pines. The Commissioners were also in agreement of the importance of the Shub family's safety.

Shub expressed that a simpler design would be custom and cost more to construct. Stchekine appealed to the simpler design as well, but he empathized with the Shub's as he understood the exorbitant costs associated with a custom design and especially in this economic climate. Roberts asked Shub why the renderings of the gate submitted to the Commissioners were completely different from the ones she was submitting at the meeting. Shub informed the Commissioners that both renderings of the proposed fence were taken from the internet because she was seeking a design that all could agree upon.

Witty and Kokoszka mentioned the importance of a consistent aesthetic for the Shub residence.

Kokoszka praised the house as having a uniquely classic design and in keeping with that design, a simpler fence seemed to be the best choice.

Stating that the fence request was not in violation of any written Village Ordinance, Roberts appealed to the Shub's to consider proceeding with a simpler design for the fence and gate. Roberts was prepared to table the issue until a simpler design could be agreed upon. Roberts also offered the Shub's an opportunity to call a Special Meeting so their installation process would not be unnecessarily delayed.

Motion by Kokoszka, seconded Wilke by to approve the fence as proposed at 32334 Franklin Rd. with the proposed height with the underlying design being fence option #2 with a straight top which would include removing every other bar so that the fence is more transparent at the bottom.

Ayes: Alek Kokoszka, Gary Roberts, Alex Stchekine, and Jill Wilke

Nays: Laura Witty

Absent: Mike Brassfield and Gayle Timmis

Motion carried.

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Roberts stated he spoke with Amanda Davis, Historic District Commission Facilitator and she stated that a draft report of the Historic Study Committee Report will be ready to be presented to the Village Council at their September 13, 2021, meeting and then submitted to SHPO.

VIII. ADJOURNAMENT

Motion by Roberts to adjourn the meeting. The Meeting was adjourned at 8:19 P.M.

Submitted,
Connie Folk, Recording Secretary

Heather Mydloski, Village Clerk