

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LOWELL DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
CITY OF LOWELL, MICHIGAN

For the Meeting of the Downtown Historic District Commission on Tuesday April 24, 2012. The Meeting was called to order at 6:11 p.m. by Chairman Doyle and Lori Gerard called the Roll.

Present: Dr. Robert Reagan, Greg Canfield and Chairman Stephen Doyle

Absent: Judy Straub and Chris Fleszar

Also Present: Museum Director Pat Allchin and her husband George Allchin, Councilmember Jim Hall and Lori Gerard

IT WAS MOVED BY REAGAN and supported by CANFIELD to approve the regular meeting minutes of March 27, 2012 as written.

YEA: 3 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 2 MOTION CARRIED

IT WAS MOVED BY REAGAN and supported by CANFIELD to amend the agenda and add 325 W Main – Lowell Area Historic Museum.

YEA: 3 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 2 MOTION CARRIED

Item #1 **325 W. Main – Historic Museum – fencing** Museum Director Pat Allchin stated that they would like to install a decorative fence on the inside of the cedar trees at 325 W Main to control traffic thru the garden. It was noted that there is a huge path wearing from people that cut thru the cedars to access Main Street. The openings on the south and east side of the museum would still be left in place. Allchin stated the proposed fencing would be 4’ tall black metal powder coated fencing.

Chairman Doyle stated that they would need to speak with Doug Hopkins, Building Inspector for a fence permit also. Commissioner Canfield questioned if 3’ was the maximum height allowed along the front of a property. It was noted that Allchin would need to contact the City as this was their property.

Chairman Doyle commented that this would fit well within the district and some of the other fencing that is in the downtown area. It was questioned whether a point would be allowed on the top of the fencing.

IT WAS MOVED BY CANFIELD and supported by REAGAN to approve the fencing style and location for 325 W Main, Lowell Historic Museum as presented, and pending approval of the City.

YEA: 3 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 2 MOTION CARRIED

A grant was also submitted for the fencing. George Allchin noted that the cost is \$32.52 per panel and \$7.74 per post. A total of 16 panels are needed. It was noted that volunteers would be installing the fence.

IT WAS MOVED BY CANFIELD and supported by REAGAN that a 100% grant be given for 325 W. Main which is not to exceed \$700 for fencing.

YEA: 3 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 2 MOTION CARRIED

Item #2 **325 W. Main – Lowell Area Historical Museum – signage.** Pat Allchin also presented an application for temporary signage on the back entrance of the Museum. She commented that this coming fall they will be hosting a new exhibit at the Museum call “Real to Reel” which will be about the history of the Strand Theater. The exhibit will run for 2 years. Allchin stated that what they want to do is replicate the old Strand marquee on the back entrance of the building. The goal of this is to attract attention that something is going on at the Museum. Allchin stated that they are planning a red carpet event the night of the exhibit opening.

Commissioner Reagan questioned who would be building this. It was noted the George Allchin and volunteers would be constructing and hanging the signage. George Allchin assured that there would be no evidence left on the building that the sign was even there.

Chairman Doyle stated that the proposed signage is temporary and is 12’ long and projects out 6’ from the building. It was noted that Doug Hopkins would also need to approve signage.

Commissioner Canfield agreed that this would certainly not be something allowed on a permanent basis but the Museum is a great thing for the community and brings people into town. Commissioner Reagan agreed that this was certainly unique but would be a challenge to build it.

IT WAS MOVED BY REAGAN and supported by CANFIELD to approve a 2 year temporary sign measuring 12’ long and projecting out 6’ from the building over the rear entrance of 325 W Main pending City approval.

YEA: 3 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 2 MOTION CARRIED

Item #3 **Project Updates.**

Item #4 **Old Business.**

Item #5 **New Business.**

Item #6 **Public Comment.** It was noted that Commissioner Judy Straub has sold her home in the City and will be moving outside the City.

IT WAS MOVED BY REAGAN to adjourn at 6:38 pm.

YEA: 3 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 2 **MOTION CARRIED**

DATE:

APPROVED:

Stephen Doyle, Chairman

Greg Canfield, Vice-Chairman