

**CITY OF MASON
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 16, 2019**

Clinton called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm in the Maple Conference Room 2nd floor at 201 West Ash Street, Mason MI.

Present: (6) Clinton, Cummings, Klein, Schulien, Shattuck, Vogel
Absent: (1) Linsley (resigned - notice given)
Also present: Elizabeth A. Hude, AICP, Community Development Director

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Schulien, second by Shattuck, to approve the Historic District Commission meeting minutes as amended from November 18, 2019.

Yes (6) Clinton, Cummings, Klein, Schulien, Shattuck, Vogel
No (0)
Absent: (0)

MOTION APPROVED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. 118 W. Oak St. – David Meredith – Certificate of Appropriateness for exterior improvements in C-1 Business District.

Director Hude shared that David Meredith submitted updated outdoor lighting options for the old school administration building. There was discussion among the members regarding the Sophia sconce, and that the light may project light and bother neighbors given that the bulb doesn't appear to be shielded in any way. The City ordinance does require lighting to be shielded as much as possible and the light source to not be visible. There was a possibility that the bulb on the Sophia sconce could be shaded on one side to make it opaque to rectify the problem. Klein believes the Gooseneck arm light meets the criteria of being shielded, it directs light downward and does not spread the light around and is appropriate for the time period. Vogel shared that she feels the Sophia option better fits the time period and matches the aesthetic of the building.

MOTION by Klein, second Schulien, to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness for the Gooseneck arm light option.

Yes (5) Clinton, Cummings, Klein, Schulien, Shattuck
No (1) Vogel
Absent: (0)

MOTION APPROVED

B. Parks, Recreation & Non-Motorized Plan Update

The Open House for the Parks Plan was Saturday and there were 3 City Council members in attendance and a good group of residents. The survey is still available online through the end of the month, and we are nearing 7% in number of respondents. The draft plan is also available on the website. Director Hude referenced a section in the Plan which discusses the Historic District and Maple Grove Cemetery. There was a suggestion to clean up the west side of the railroad tracks downtown and add some nice trees and flowers to make it attractive.

Discussion took place regarding the attractiveness on the west side of Ash Street versus the unattractiveness of the East side of Ash Street in regards to yard upkeep and paint colors on houses. Director Hude responded that the Historic District can be enlarged but there needs to be thought about the pros and cons to the homeowners with more cost and oversight. It was also noted that there are other historic areas in Mason besides the downtown district.

C. Work Plan Update

Cummings shared his proposal for workshops and there were questions as to the HDC budget to fund the workshops. Hude referenced materials she handed out that deal with HDC expenses, budget and planning. The new SHPO programs were discussed and Director Hude went through some of the most important items that need to be done in the next year including: advertising open positions, applying for a Certified Local Government Community Partnership Program project for help with an architectural survey, preparing a Request for Proposal for architectural services, training, and partnering with the Mason Historical Society to host seminars.

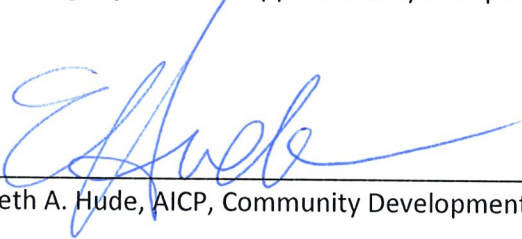
Vogel thanked Director Hude for the job she has done in leading the Historic District Commission.

LIAISON REPORT

Vogel referenced the City Manager's report.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:11 p.m.



Elizabeth A. Hude, AICP, Community Development Director