

Meeting of the
City of Charlevoix
Historic District Commission
Friday, October 26, 2018
Minutes

Vicki Voisin, Chair of the Historic District Commission, called the meeting to order at 11:06 am.

1) Roll Call

Present: Mary Adams, John Campbell, Kay Heise, David Miles, Vicki Voisin Absent: Paul Weston, Hans Wiemer
Representing the City of Charlevoix: Lindsey Dotson, Executive Director, Downtown Development Authority (DDA)

2) Approval of Agenda: A quorum was present, and the agenda was unanimously approved with the correction of item 5)a from ~~Letter to current property owners in historic district~~ to **Letter to property owners in potential historic district**. Motion made by Mary Adams and supported by David Miles.

3) Inquiry Regarding Conflicts of Interest: none

4) Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the August 24, 2018 meeting were unanimously approved. Motion made by David Miles and supported by Mary Adams.

5) Old Business

a. Letter to property owners in potential historic district

Lindsey Dotson reported that three of the eight letters sent last month to the property owners of the 200 Bridge Street block/ Van Pelt Alley have been returned. All three were positive and supported efforts to proceed with National Historic Register status. Ms. Dotson will attempt to contact the five remaining property owners before our next meeting. Michigan Main Street is expected to help prepare the application documents.

b. CLG (Certified Local Government) Application Status

Ms. Dotson reported that the CLG application has been submitted. This CLG designation from the National Park Service would make available significant grant funds to be used for historic preservation.

6) New Business

a. Request for Removal from Historic District - Feldman

A publication from the Michigan Historic Preservation Network entitled, "Local Historic Districts and Property Values in Michigan Neighborhoods" was made available to the commissioners.

Vicki Voisin read a portion of the October 1, 2018 City Council minutes item 7A (attachment #1) and the letter from the Feldmans requesting that their two homes in the **Earl Young Historic Buildings Local Historic District** be removed from the district. Kay Heise moved to:

Recommend to deny the request

John Campbell seconded. Discussion reflected that there is an obligation to maintain the integrity of the historic district, that the public hearing in 2015 had support from the homeowners and that there have been affirmative State of Michigan court cases upholding the legality of historic districts. Mary Adams offered an amendment to the motion:

And recommend to City Council that it refer to minutes from the public hearing on October 19, 2015, item V.A. (attachment#2) and existing case law before making the final decision

David seconded. Vicki Voisin will investigate the State of Michigan cases with the help of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO.) Copies of case law were not available at the time of the meeting but will be provided when received. The motion and the amendment passed unanimously.

7) Request for Future Agenda Items

- John Campbell requested that we consider encouraging the City Council to improve the area on Park Avenue across from the **Earl Young Historic Buildings Local Historic District**.
- Lindsey Dotson requested that we discuss signage at the entrance to the **Earl Young Historic Buildings Local Historic District** which would discourage visitors from entering private property grounds.

8) Adjournment: The agreement to adjourn was unanimously approved. Motion made by John Campbell and supported by Mary Adams. Meeting adjourned at 11:49.

Next Meeting: January 25th tentatively

Submitted by: Kay Heise, Secretary

Attachments:

1. October 1, 2018 City Council minutes
2. October 19, 2015 Public Hearing