

Flint Historic District Commission Meeting
Thursday, February 1, 2007
City Council Chambers
3rd Floor, City of Flint Municipal Center
1103 South Saginaw Street
Flint, Michigan 48502
5:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes January 4, 2007

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Leanne Barkus, Ryan Eashoo, Steve Heddy, James Rutherford, Nancy Sinclair, Dr. Mildred Smith, and Dale Suomela.

Absent: None

Guests: Greg Vanucci, Jerry Preston, Theresa McDonnell, Michael Freeman, Freeman Greer, Gregg Renhart, and Isadore James.

Staff: Carol Freeman, Program Specialist, Department of Community and Economic Development
Attorney Daniel Klemtner, City of Flint Law Office

I. Call to Order

The January 4, 2007 Historic District Commission meeting in the McKenzie Room, 2nd Floor, City was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Chairman Eashoo. Roll was taken and a quorum was present.

II. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Heddy made a motion to adopt the meeting minutes of the December 7, 2006 Historic District Commission. Commissioner Barkus seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with all members yes.

Motion passed.

III. Hearing From the Public

Mr. Jerry Preston addressed the Commission addressing the use of Parliamentary Procedure and distributed pamphlets providing information on proper use of Robert Rules.

Commissioner Sinclair made a motion to suspend the rules, supported by Commissioner Heddy, to allow public discourse during this portion of the agenda. A voice vote was taken with all members voting yes.

Motion Passed.

Commissioner Sinclair stated that she hopes that a Parliamentarian is able to assist the commission with this process.

Mr. Preston continued to provide information on the use of Robert Rules.

Mr. Freeman Greer addressed the Commission stating the importance of the participation during discussion deliberations of the individual making a request.

Chairperson Eashoo suggested that the Commission set up a meeting with Mr. Preston for further discussions.

Mr. Greg Rinehart stated he was very upset with the decision made by the Commission to demolish the houses on Manning Street. He offered 3 suggestions; the houses be used for an Artist in Residence program, renovation, or provide an incentive for employees of the Flint Institute of Music to live in the houses.

Commissioner Eashoo introduced Mr. Isadore James who asked that the commission consider his request for a Certificate of Appropriateness for the structure located at 516 Begole Street. He stated that he began siding the house but was issued a stop work order by Building Inspector Mike Reiter. He states the work has been completed but that he cannot install eaves without the Certificate. He also stated that an application was faxed to the City. Chairperson Eashoo asked if Commissioners if they would make an exception and issue a Certificate at this time. Mr. James stated he still had an original application sent to the city and it was faxed to the city.

Commissioner Barkus motioned that Mr. James be put on the February agenda and that the application be re-faxed to the city prior to that time. Commissioner Sinclair supported the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Motion Passed.

IV. Plan Review

720 and 726 Ann Arbor FOR FLINT INVESTMENTS, L.L.C.

Mr. Freeman Greer requested the Commission add the two properties to the list of Historic Districts. The building is eligible under national standards. The building will be eligible for State tax credits if the structures are locally designated as historic.

A discussion took place regarding the process necessary to bring historic designation to a structure. Commissioner Suomela stated that Chapter 2 of the City Ordinances outlines the procedure.

Commissioner Sinclair made a motion that the Commission do what is necessary to research to proceed with Mr. Greer's request. Commissioner Heddy supported the motion.

A roll call vote was taken. All members voting yes.

Motion Passed.

Commissioner Heddy made a motion that the Historic District Commission gives its support to designating 720 and 726 Ann Arbor as historic structures. Commissioner Barkus supported the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Motion Passed.

V. New Business

Chairperson Eashoo presented a list of 12 items he suggests that the Commission adopts as goals for the year.

Commissioner Rutherford motioned that we accept the report. Commissioner Suomela supported the motion. A roll call vote was taken. All members voting yes.

Motion Passed.

4. Old Business

Commissioner's Sinclair and Rutherford gave a PowerPoint presentation of their site visit to the Flint Institute of Music. Discussion followed.

At 6:50 p.m. a motion was made by Commissioner Heddy to move the commission to an Executive Session to meet with City Attorney Daniel Klemtner. Commissioner Suomela supported the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Commissioner's Heddy, Rutherford, Sinclair, Smith, and Sinclair voting yes. Chairperson Eashoo and Commissioner Barkus voting no.

Motion Passed.

The Executive Session ended at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

