

Washtenaw County Historic District Commission Meeting Minutes

DATE:	Thursday, July 7, 2022
TIME:	5:30 pm-7:00pm
PLACE	Detroit Observatory, 1398 E Ann St, Ann Arbor, MI 48109

Call to Order

- Vice Chair Jerome called the Washtenaw County Historic District Commission meeting to order at 5:39 PM
- Secretary McKay conducted roll call:
 - **Commissioners present:** Kim Clarke, Olivia Davidson, James Mann, Alec Jerome, Alice Ralph, Aprille McKay
 - **Commissioners absent with notice:** Peter Kelley, Katie Remensnyder
 - **Staff present:** Melinda Schmidt

Approval of the Agenda of the Current Meeting:

Vice Chair Jerome motioned to approve the agenda of July 7, 2022 Historic District Commission meeting. Commissioner McKay seconded the motion. The agenda was unanimously approved.

Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meeting: May 5, 2022

Vice Chair Jerome motioned to approve the May 5, 2022 meeting minutes. Commissioner Clarke seconded the motion, and suggested a friendly amendment to the minutes, striking a second mention of Commissioner Kelley in roll call. With no objections to the friendly amendment, commissioners voted and the motion passed unanimously.

Business and Staff Reports:

Wilde-Frey Farm: Staff asked Vice Chair Jerome for an update on Scio Township. Jerome stated hiring a consultant to complete the study committee report is on the agenda for the upcoming Township meeting. As soon as the consultant is hired, staff will contact those who agreed to serve on the study committee.

Thornocks: Staff updated commissioners on the appeal process regarding the February 10, 2022 HDC decision. The State Historic Preservation Review Board will consider the matter at their September meeting.

2022 Audit: Staff has begun site visits to local historic districts. As part of this process, staff initiated renewing the contract with the Navy for the USS Washtenaw Artifacts, housed at 200 N. Main. The artifacts in the display are a mix of those on loan from the Navy and those donated by local veterans.

State Historic Preservation Tax Credit: The state tax credit was implemented mid-June. There is a limited amount of funds, and applications are considered as first come first serve. At this point, all funds have been allocated for 2022, and the application portal will open again next year.

Certified Local Government Program: SHPO staff will attend the September 1 HDC meeting as part of routine CLG review process. HDC staff will meet with SHPO staff before the HDC meeting, commissioners are welcome to attend.

Commissioner Project Ideas and Updates:

Commissioner Mann discussed his upcoming book, *Murder and Mayhem in Washtenaw County*, which will be released October 3. Lantern Tours at Highland Cemetery will take place the last three weekends in October. Commissioner Clarke updated the commission on the new sculpture by John Pappas commemorating African American Civil War veterans buried in Highland Cemetery. The sculpture was unveiled mid-June.

Adjournment: Commissioner Clarke motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Davidson seconded the motion. It passed unanimously and the meeting closed at 6:15.

The next HDC meeting is scheduled for <i>Thursday, August 4, 2022- Washtenaw County Learning Resource Center, Superior Room, 4135 Washtenaw Ave, Ann Arbor, MI 48108</i>
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