

**CITY OF MASON
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES OF APRIL 15, 2019**

Clinton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Maple Conference Room 2nd floor at 201 West Ash Street, Mason MI.

Present: Clinton, Cummings, Klein, Linsley Schulien, Shattuck, Vogel

Absent:

Also present: Elizabeth A. Hude, AICP, Community Development Director Rhonda Baker & Amanda Reintjes, The Michigan Historic Preservation Network

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Schulien second by Shattuck, to approve the Historic District Commission meeting minutes from January 21, 2019.

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A long term plan for the Historic District Commission was discussed amongst members and staff. The following were points of discussion:

- A review of the CLG report and how to address the recommendations posed in the report findings.
- Engaging students in the Historic District.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Certificate of Appropriateness, 131 E. Maple St., Mason First Presbyterian Church, represented by Steve Sowles, for a new, internally lit, freestanding sign.

The applicant presented the project. His son passed away, and this was going to be his Eagle Scout project. The sign is currently internally lit, and the proposed project also has an internally lit sign.

Cummings does not agree with the interior lighting element of the sign. This element is not consistent with the start of the twentieth century, which is the era of the building's construction.

Vogel noted it is important to preserve the integrity of the building.

Significant discussion resulted in a motion to continue the matter to a future meeting and allow staff to conduct research that would help the commission make findings about the design standards for signs in the historic district.

MOTION by Vogel second by Cummings to continue the matter of 131 E. Maple Street to the Historic District Commission's regular meeting on May 20, 2019.

Additional discussion took place regarding the proposed replacement sign and if the internal illumination was grandfathered. Staff responded that while the sign would be considered conforming in its underlying O-1 zoning district, if it does not meet the Historic District standards, then it could be considered non-conforming. A replacement sign would need to meet the current requirements.

Klein called to end the discussion and move the vote, Vogel Seconded. The chair called for a vote.

Yes (7) Cummings, Linsley, Schulien, Vogel, Clinton, Klein, Shattuck

No (0)

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

LIAISON REPORT

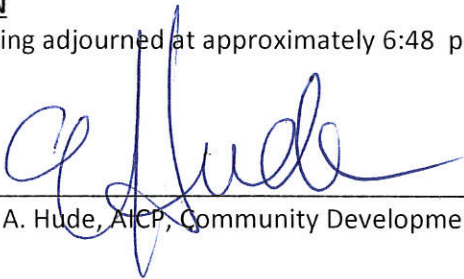
A. Development Update: City Manager's Report was provided to the commissioners at the meeting.

Councilmember Vogel provided the liaison report. The City Council is reviewing the annual budget, under \$15 million; the last tax increase was two years ago and the one before that was 25 years prior; the focus has been on baseline maintenance including parks; the DPW is in poor condition; nothing has been done at the wastewater plant for 20 years and a decision is to be made about bonding for a new facility. An aspect of the budget City Council is reviewing is part-time workers. Also retirement and benefit consideration.

Meggie Wren has been nominated to the Planning Commission. Cory Thackery has been nominated to the Downtown Development Authority.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:48 p.m.



Elizabeth A. Hude, AICP, Community Development Director