
PITTSFIELD TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

July 10, 2007, 6:30 p.m.

Pittsfield Township Administration Building

6201 W. Michigan Avenue

Ann Arbor, MI 48108

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dodd, LeClair, Ticknor, Urda-Thompson, Wall

MEMBERS ABSENT: Byrd, Richards

OTHERS PRESENT: Sean Connors, Ron Connors

1.0 Call Meeting to Order/Determination of a Quorum.

Chair Dodd called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. and a quorum was present.

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance

3.0 Roll Call

4.0 Open Meetings Act/Public Comment

Under the Open Meetings Act, any person may come forward at this time to address the Board. Anyone who wishes to speak is requested but not required to state his/her name and address for the record.

None

5.0 Approval of Agenda

Motion by Wall, supported by LeClair, to approve agenda.

Motion carried.

6.0 Scheduled Guests:

Ina Hanel-Gerdenich, not present. Sean Connors.

7.0 Officers Report

7.1 Chair: A quote from Wm. Pitt was discussed, noting its different possible interpretations. An AAHLH dispatch was circulated. A proposed 2008 budget for the Commission was distributed and reviewed, with a total of \$2625.00.

7.2 Vice Chair: None

7.3 Secretary/Approval of Minutes.

Motion by Le Clair, supported by Ticknor, to approve minutes of the June 6, 2007 meeting.

Action: Motion Carried

7.4 Expenditure Report: Chair Dodd said the Commission has about \$12,000 in its account. A print-out was circulated.

8.0 Reports

8.1 Archive Museum: None

8.2 Transcript of oral histories: Emily Salvette did transcriptions of John Phillips and Elizabeth Hiller for \$100. Motion by LeClair, supported by Wall, to pay Emily Salvette \$100 for the transcriptions. Motion carried.

8.3: The Brick Campaign and SWFM: it was reported the Historical Society is running out of money and wants thoughts from the Historical Commission about asking for \$2000-\$3000 from the Township for the ramp. This is because the ramp is becoming quite an expense and will be required by law if the barn is opened to the public. Handrails and gravel fill will be necessary. \$12,000--\$13,000 has been raised by the sale of bricks. Nature's Garden Center has donated numerous loads of topsoil and some shrubs and flowers. But additional money is needed to cover all this and thus there is a proposal to ask the Township for \$2000-\$3000. It was suggested that the Society write a letter to the Commission with this request and that the Commission take it to the Supervisor.

It was reported that there are problems with damage and poor workmanship on the barn roof. There was a discussion of what to do. Free legal advice will be sought.

Helen Richard has requested reimbursement for purchasing glass for a frame for the Orange Risdon map. Motion by Ticknor, supported by Urda-Thompson, to reimburse Helen Richard for \$26.63 for the cost of glass for the Orange Risdon map. Motion carried.

EMU has inquired about renting the farm for a Halloween party. The discussion indicated that it will not be possible to consider this due to lack of facilities and insurance.

- 8.4 The Chair circulated a copy of a letter sent to the attorney for the Cody farm by Township Treasurer Christina Lirones. There has not been any reply.
- 8.5 Letter from Melissa Milton-Pung: Letter from MMP was read, regarding the moving of historic buildings.

9.0 Old Business

- 9.1 Student Intern: Helen Richards has suggested that help is needed in the Archives. Sean Connors agreed to help as an intern in the Archives. Help is also needed for the day of the barn dedication and maybe with the Survey. Sean will probably be out of town on the day of the dedication but he will do what he can based on his schedule.
- 9.2 Moving buildings: A letter from Melissa Milton-Pung was read, regarding the moving of historic buildings.
- 9.3 Survey: Chair Dodd presented some notes Ina Hanel-Gerdenich. A public meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2007, at 7 pm. A proposed press release was read and distributed. Other items she suggested for the Commission to consider: tour the suburbs; review submission for the community bulletin; think about what we would like to see preserved on a township scale and how; conduct a mini-workshop at the August or September meeting; make a list of supplies for the October meeting and find someone to take charge to pull it together; a large aerial photograph; a large map the Master Plan; two large blank copies of Township and property boundaries; 50 copies @ 8 1/2/ x 11 of Township and boundaries; markers, pens, tape, post-its; screen and projector or computer with power-point capability; and refreshments. Volunteers for these tasks were taken. A tentative agenda for October 16th was discussed.

10.0 New Business

10.1 Barn Dedication: Chair Dodd will make opening remarks and introduce Township officials. Betty LeClair will speak for the Historical Society and give “thank you’s”. Ernestine Wilson- Meenan (sp?), from California, and her daughter, will be there. This is her child-hood home. There will be machinery exhibits and a few children’s activities. Parks and Recreation Department will help with tables, chairs, tents. There will be cake and juice. About seventy-five notices have been sent out to radio, TV, and newspapers. Other individual notices and invitations will be sent out. There will also be crafts and popcorn. Permission has been given for people to go through the house as well as the barn. There will be a self-guided tour and descriptions of barns and a small map. The publicity includes the fact that Harry Macomber will be there with copies of his book. Other plans were discussed.

There was a request for the Commission to pay postage costs of \$70.00. Motion by Ticknor, supported by Wall, to pay \$70.00 postage for the barn dedication. Motion carried.

11.0 Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 1, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.

12.0 Adjournment

Moved by Commissioner Ticknor, to adjourn the meeting at 7:33pm.

Action: Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted
Mary Ellen Wall

Pittsfield Township Historical Commission