

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY APRIL 8, 2014
6:00PM - REGULAR MEETING
LION'S DEN - CITY HALL
47450 WOODWARD AVE.
PONTIAC, MICHIGAN 48342

CALL TO ORDER: 6:08 PM

COMMISSIONERS:

MR. RICK DAVID
MR. ROBERT KARAZIM
MS. KATHALEE JAMES
MR. KENNETH BURCH
MS. KATHIE HENK
MS. LINDA PORTER
MS. TAMEKA RAMSEY

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN RICK DAVID: ROLL CALL: GORDON BOWDELL

MR. BOWDELL: JAMES?

MS. JAMES: HERE

MR. BOWDELL: BURCH?

MR. BURCH: HERE

MR. BOWDELL: KARAZIM?

MR. KARAZIM: HERE

MR. BOWDELL: DAVID?

MR. DAVID: HERE

MR. BOWDELL: HENK?

MS. HENK. HERE

MR. BOWDELL: PORTER?

MS. PORTER: HERE

MR BOWELL: RAMSEY?

MS. RAMSEY:

LATE: 1 MS. TAMEKA RAMSEY

ABSENT: 0

ALSO PRESENT: MR. GORDON BOWDELL, MR. JAMES SABO

OPENING PUBLIC COMMENTS: MS. ANN LIIMATTA, 26 WISNER STREET, BROUGHT A CONCERN ABOUT PROTECTING THE WISNER HOME, WISNER SCHOOL AND OTHER HISTORIC PROPERTIES IN THE CESAR CHAVEZ AREA. LEE CONTRACTING HAS A 20 YEAR LEASE ON THE WISNER STADIUM AND SURROUNDING PROPERTY. SHE IS CONCERNED THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN THE PROPERTY FOR ITS HISTORIC VALUE. SHE SHOWED PHOTOS OF HISTORIC HOMES IN THE AREA BUILT BEFORE 1920 AND ASKED HOW THE AREA COULD BE PROTECTED AND VALUED AS AN HISTORIC DISTRICT IN THE CITY OF PONTIAC. MR. SABO SAID THE PROCESS TO BECOME AN HISTORIC DISTRICT STARTS WITH GETTING THE COMMUNITY ONBOARD. NEIGHBORS WOULD NEED TO HOLD MEETINGS, SIGN A PETITION TO REQUEST HISTORIC STATUS AND SUBMIT THE PETITION TO THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION WHO WOULD SUBMIT IT TO THE CITY COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL, THEN ON TO THE STATE. IT WAS STATED THAT HISTORIC DISTRICT STATUS DOES NOT GIVE PROTECTION UNDER THE LAW FOR HISTORIC PROPERTIES NOT TO BE CHANGED OR DEMOLISHED. CHAIRMAN DAVID THANKED MS. LIIMATTO FOR SHARING HER COMMENTS AND PHOTOS WITH US.

MINUTES REVIEWED: FEBRUARY 11, 2014

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: COMMISSIONER HENK MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES WITH CORRECTIONS. COMMISSIONER KARAZIM SUPPORTED.

VOTE: AYES: 7 BURCH, DAVID, HENK, JAMES, KARAZIM, PORTER, RAMSEY

NAYS: __0__

ABSTAIN: __0__

DISPOSITION: MOTION TO ACCEPT MINUTES AS CORRECTED APPROVED

OPENING DISCUSSION;

COMMISSIONER KARAZIM COMMENTED ABOUT LESSONS LEARNED, STATING THAT WE HAVE AN EASY PATH FOR ACCREDITATION FROM THE STATE; WE ARE HOLDING MEETINGS, KEEPING RECORDS, WE SHOULD FILL OUT THE FORM TO APPLY FOR ACCREDITATION SO WE WOULD HAVE ACCESS TO AVAILABLE FUNDS SUCH AS STABILIZING GRANTS AND TAX CREDITS.

COMMISSIONER KARAZIM MADE A MOTION FOR THE COMMISSION TO TAKE THE NEXT STEP AND APPLY FOR CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT STATUS. COMMISSIONER HENK SUPPORTED.

VOTE: AYES: 7 BURCH, DAVID, HENK, JAMES, KARAZIM, PORTER, RAMSEY

NAYS: __0__

ABSTAIN: __0__

DISPOSITION: MOTION TO APPROVE THE PONTIAC HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FOR CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT STATUS WAS APPROVED.

CHAIRMAN DAVID COMMENTED THAT SOME COMMUNITIES OFFER A COLOR PALETTE AS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HISTORIC HOMES. MR BOWDELL SAID THEY ADDRESS COLOR AND OTHER ISSUES BASED ON THE ORDINANCE. CHAIRMAN DAVID STATED THAT HE WANTED TO PURSUE GIVING OUT WOOD SURFACE PREPARATION AND COLOR PALETTE INFORMATION FOR HISTORIC PROPERTIES.

COMMISSIONER KARAZIM COMMENTED ON HOW WE COULD GET HISTORIC VACANT PROPERTIES MOVING. WE HAVE 18 TO 19 HOMES CURRENTLY ON HOLD FROM DEMOLITION. THESE HOMES ARE IDENTIFIED WHEN INSPECTION CATCHES SOMEONE WORKING ON A HOUSE WITHOUT A LICENSE. IF A HOUSE IS COMDEMNED, NO ONE CAN WORK ON IT WITHOUT A CASH BOND WHICH IS EQUIVALENT TO 9.24 PER SQ FT.

MR. SABO SUGGESTED THAT WE GROUP THESE 18, OR 19 PROPERTIES TOGETHER AND ASK FOR THE BOND TO BE WAVED. COMMISSIONER HENK ASKED IF THESE HOMES ARE PRIVATELY OWNED. MR. BOWDELL SAID SOME ARE PRIVATELY OWNED, SOME ARE OWNED BY THE COUNTY. EACH CASE IS DIFFERENT. MR. SABO ASKED THE SUB-GROUP TO MAKE A PROPOSED BOND REDUCTION TO THE COMMISSION. MR BOWELL SAID HE WOULD PUT A LINK ON THE CITY WEBSITE FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE WEBPAGE AS WELL AS OTHER HELPFUL INFORMATION OVER THE NEXT COUPLE OF MONTHS.

CHAIRMAN DAVID ASKED FOR A SUMMARY, "TO DO" LIST.

TO DO LIST INCLUDED:

- APPLICATION FOR CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT STATUS
- WHO OWNS THE 18 HOMES
- SUB-COMMITTEE TO WORK ON PROPOSAL
-

COMMENT: COMMISSIONER PORTER STATED THAT DAYNE THOMAS SHOULD BE ASKED TO GIVE INPUT ON THE PROPOSAL.

COMMISSIONER RAMSEY STATED THAT WE SHOULD KEEP AN EYE ON 22 IROQUOIS ROAD.

COMMISSIONER HENK ANNOUNCED THE LAUNCH PARTY FOR CANVAS PONTIAC ON APRIL 23, 2014, 5:00 PM, AT LAYFAYETTE MARKET.

COMMISSIONER HENK MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:38 PM.

