

City of Allegan
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
Griswold Auditorium – 401 Hubbard Street, Allegan MI 49010
HDC MEETING MINUTES
Monday, March 7, 2016

Call to Order by Chairman Peter Savage at 7:00

1. Attendance

Present: Nancy Ingalsbee, , Owen Hunt, Peter Savage, Jill Bentley and, Kathy Cassady
Absent: Marcia Neigebauer, Fred Jordan

Also Present: Robert Hillard - City Manager

2. Agenda - Revised

Motion made by Jill Bentley, supported by Owen Hunt, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed by acclamation.

3. Minutes

Minutes for February 1, 2016

Motion made by Jill Bentley, supported by Owen Hunt, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed by acclamation.

4. Public Comment

5. Applications

1) 209 Hubbard Street – Awning and Signs

Carol and Randy Sneller presented the application for a 48” X24’ 278” awning, and window signs with the new business logo, at 209 Hubbard Street. Just for information, the applicant indicated that awning will be blue and white, and look similar to the recently installed awning Tibbitts Financial on Hubbard Street. Motion made by Owen Hunt, supported by Kathy Cassady, made a motion to approve the awning and sign design as presented. Motion passed by acclamation.

2) Riverfront – Zip Line/Climbing Wall

Robert Hillard and Kelsie King presented the application, as it would be placed on City property along the riverfront. The project will be completed by Jim Liggett of Ropes Courses of Allegan, for a ten year license, solely managed and financially sponsored by this Allegan Company. The HDC asked a variety of questions, including location, compatibility with the riverfront and the Old Town Historic District. The Committee discussed the safety aspects and the height which would be up to 60 feet tall. Motion made by Nancy Ingalsbee, supported by Jill Bentley, to approve the zip line as presented. Motion passed 6-0 (Owen Hunt voting No).

6. Staff Approvals

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6. Old Business

1) Allegan District Library – Addition Presentation

Lindsey Dorfman, Allegan District Librarian, introduced the project and the process for improvements to the existing Carnegie Library. The presentation included a preliminary design of the property, the process for approving finances through a vote of the people, and improvements to the facility based on community feedback. The HDC asked a variety of questions, and overall was supportive of the project. No formal approvals were sought, but anticipated coming back to the HDC in the Fall, 2016.

2) Staffing Changes - PCI

Robert Hillard, City Manager, introduced Kirk Scharphorn Sr., of Professional Code Inspections, regarding the recent staffing changes related to Building Services in the City of Allegan. Kirk introduced his staff, and outlined their experience and enthusiasm for working with the City and the HDC.

3) 509 Trowbridge – Porch/Siding Inquiry

Robert Hillard, City Manager, inquired into processing the application at 509 Trowbridge. The owner indicated that they are looking at the porch, but would need to take the siding off to investigate anticipated damage. The owner indicated that her intentions were to attempt to refurbish the siding that is under the aluminum siding if it is salvageable. Nancy Ingalsbee, supported by Jill Bentley, made a motion to authorize staff to work with the owner on the removal of the siding, and to develop a strategy to complete the project. Motion passed by acclamation.

4) 118 Locust Street - Bruce & Ruth Ann Carns, owners)

Bruce and Ann Carnes were present to update the HDC on the repair of the windows at 118 Locust Street. The Carns indicated that they have received one quote, but are seeking others. The contractors they have met indicated that the best work would need to be completed mid-July, in order to make sure the conditions are dry. The HDC appreciates the update, but encouraged the Carns to get a second quote in order to address the issue. They are concerned the windows are in need of immediate repair. The HDC offered additional resource contractors to attempt to provide the solution. The HDC asked this item be on the agenda for next month, with the intent to have a solution.

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5) HB 5232 & SB 720

Robert Hillard, City Manager, read an e-mail from the Michigan Municipal League (MML) regarding the legislation, and the process to improve. The HDC discussed their concerns about the proposed legislation. Robert Hillard indicated that he is pleased the MML is taking a leadership role on making this legislation acceptable. Nancy Ingalsbee will be contacting Chris Hackbarth, MML State Legislative Director, to get up updates, and to be informed of future committee meetings.

8. Education

9. Commission & Public Comments

Jill Bentley asked if there are better ways to inform the property owners about the fact they are in the HDC. Kirk Scharphorn Sr. indicated some thoughts about requiring a disclosure document before sales. Staff will look at options.

11. Adjournment

Motion by Nancy Ingalsbee, supported by Kathy Cassady, to adjourn the meeting at 8:50P. Motion passed by acclamation.

Respectfully Submitted:

Robert Hillard

City Manager

The minutes of this meeting will be available at City Hal, 112 Locust Street, Allegan MI 49010 (269) 673-5511