

FARMINGTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2009

Chairperson Myers called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Present: Atkinson, Bernath, Grattan, Gundlach, Munter, Myers

Excused: Baessler

Absent: Mosey

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Munter, supported by Atkinson to approve the agenda with the addition of item 8e: Proposal of a new historic district

Motion carried: all ayes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Gundlach, supported by Grattan, to approve the minutes of January 22, 2009 as presented. Motion carried: all ayes.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial report was not available

WARNER MANSION ACTIVITIES

- a) The mansion will reopen for the season on Sun. March 1.
- b) There will be a table publicizing the mansion at the first farmers market with people in period costume selling afghans.
- c) The mansion volunteers will experiment with open hours on Saturdays to see if they can draw visitors who are in town at the farmers market.
- d) There will be a volunteer recruitment tea on April 5.
- e) The possibility of having local community groups join together to participate in the two parades was discussed.

OLD BUSINESS

- a) Afghan sales report was not available.
- b) Historic District Commission Training Seminar: Chairperson Myers reported on the event and commented on various materials from the seminar that she had e-mailed to the commissioners.

NEW BUSINESS

- a) Demolition of the garage at 33300 Oakland: Motion by Munter, supported by Atkinson, to approve the application for demolition of the garage at 33300 Oakland as presented. Motion carried: all ayes
- b) Recommendation for proposed demolition of house on Grand River: After discussion that many years ago, the Farmington Historical Commission had declared, and we believe that the state was notified, that this structure was of historic value to the City of Farmington, it was decided to ask the city manager to investigate if the house could legally be demolished or relocated without permission from the state.
- c) Update to city master plan: Motion by Gundlach, supported by Atkinson, that an addendum regarding the commission's interests pertaining to the Historic District's inclusion in the master plan be attached to the minutes of this meeting for consideration by the city manager, the Planning Commission and the City Council. Motion carried: all ayes.

- d) Correspondence and communications - none
- e) Proposed new historic district: Motion by Munter, supported by Bernath that:
Whereas at the DDA meeting with Donovan Rypkema, the importance of historic preservation and restoration to business owners was stressed and that guidelines for renovations to commercial structures should be developed, and whereas the branding study indicated that one of the things that makes Farmington a unique community are the historic houses on Grand River, and whereas the master plan of 2007 states that “Farmington’s long history can still be seen in the historic buildings downtown and in the surrounding neighborhoods, which make up an essential part of the community character”, the Farmington Historical Commission asks the city manager to request that the City Council establish a study committee to investigate the possibility of creating a new historic district, to be called the “East Grand River Historic District”, encompassing the older houses on the north side of Grand River from Warner Street east to Power Rd, and on the south side of Grand River from Grove Street east to Maple Street.
Motion carried: all ayes

PUBLIC COMMENT: Discussion about Chairperson Myers or her designee contacting the city manager about a memorial tribute for Dick Carvell at the mansion and recognition by the city of former chairperson Bill Lindblad’s dedicated service and efforts to historic preservation in Farmington.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Myers at 9:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
D. Munter, Secretary