

Agenda

Historic Preservation Commission

City of Kalamazoo



Wednesday, July 10th, 2024

6:00 PM

City Commission Chambers at City Hall – 241 West South Street

A. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Called to order at 6:02PM

B. ADOPTION OF FORMAL AGENDA

Pena third guest Jacob Johnsson put in E3, move new commissioner appointment recommendation directly after the guests.

Powell-Wilson moved to approve.

White 2nd.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Powell- Wilson April minutes number 4 5th row reaching to reaching out and she was able to someone with the tribe. White E6 O' Connor fund grant making 2nd line Kyles name is spelled wrong.

White moved to approve as amended

Akina 2nd

Edison item D 6 lines up from bottom of page the other term is called Michigan Manual for Fredmans Progress should be an e should be Freedmen's, down halfway on 2nd page asking what Historic Preservation Commission can do take out the, 716 Pioneer St Timm Allen known as Tim the tool man needs n on the know. Number 2 Lynn Hoten should be Lynn Holton.

White moved to approved as amended

Powell-Wilson 2nd

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS

E. Guests

1. Gary Swain- Friends of Historic Kalamazoo Cemeteries Presentation
Has two cemeteries they are focused on Mountain Home and Riverside. They have had 30 volunteers from the Eagle Scout Project at Mount Home Cemetery. This is the 14th Eagle Scout project that has been managed since 2018 the bulk of them in Riverside Cemetery. Have installed 2 new gravestones for Civil War Soldiers that never had them. Stories in Stone History in the Cemetery are our community's history, our culture, social norms and genealogical information. In Riverside there are about 150 Civil War Soldiers there they have placed around 70 stones there. In 2022 Friends of Historic Kalamazoo Cemeteries was established. The board of directors are President Gary Swain, Vice President

Marge Kars, Director Michael Culp, Director Robert Hencken, Director Dr. Sharon Carlston. Friends of Kalamazoo Historic Cemeteries is a non-profit corporation, 501 (c)(3) corporation and organized as a Directorship Corporation. The primary focus is on Riverside and Mountain Home cemeteries. Cemeteries around the country are facing several threats a lot has to do with cultural changes. The NFDA estimates that the past year only 35 percent of deaths were buried in cemeteries the bulk of the remainder were cremated. Problems that we see are vandalism, maintenance crew, nature and spalling. In 1980 tornado went through Mountain Home that broke or took down monuments. A lot of gravestones have disappeared. There are restoration failures putty, setting compound or gorilla glue. The FKHC ruled for working in a cemetery are number 1 safety first, number 2 do no harm, number 3 seek permission and number 4 show respect to the deceased. Recent projects Riverside section HH across from the parking lot at Borgess Hospital home of about 570 Veterans from World War 1 and 2. It to 3 or 4 Eagle Scout projects to clean head stones. Benjamin Orcutt has a monument in the Mountain Home Cemetery was a Civil War Veteran before war he was a sheriff officer in Kalamazoo. He returned to his duties when he came home and about two years later, he was the first to die in the line of duty. There was a jail break attempt. David and Eliza Walbridge, her husband was republican congressman from 1855-1859 he was away at congress when Abraham Lincoln was visited Kalamazoo, so she invited him for tea she was the tea hostess while he visited Kalamazoo. Her gravestone is at the top of the hill overlooking West Main. Her stone was broken, and the city had a custom stone cut to replace the base. Some projects we are working on are a family plot at Mountain Home, there is a shrub that the roots have grown under the stones.

2. Lakota Hobia, THPO with Match-E-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians Mound Discussion. Lakota Hobia serves as the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Match-E-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians. She is Pottawatomi but enrolled at a different community a member of the citizen band of Pottawatomi in Shawny OK. She is working with the City of Kalamazoo for the Bronson Park Mounds. She is joined by vice chairwoman Jody Palmer of the Match-E-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians. Project began in the mid 2010 between the tribes and the City of Kalamazoo to demarcate on the landscape the boundaries of the 1821 boundaries that were established from the treaty of Chicago of 1821. The Bronson Park Mound is one of the last remaining Mounds left in the area. 2019 in terms city had contracted services for gpr survey , ground penetrating radar and interpreted report. Recommendation to establish signs for education and cultural history for the Mounds. Then the pandemic happened and was paused. There were increased costs that have not come down. Split into 2 phases the first phase establishing 4 markers. The second phase the landscaping to create natural barriers, no walking or sitting on the mounds no children playing on the mounds. Our department has set aside \$5000.00 for this the estimated cost for this project is twelve to fifteen thousand dollars. That would be for the fabrication and installation of the markers. We are seeking a match of \$5000.00 from the Historic Preservation Commission.

2. Jacob Johnson
Not at the meeting

F. REPORTS

1. Financial Report
Pena read report.
2. O'Connor Fund Reports
O'Connor read report.
3. 106 REVIEWS Quarter 2 Report
Pena read report.

G. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. New Commissioner Appointment Recommendation
Eleanor Harris graduated from Kalamazoo College a month ago she studied history, local then historic preservation. Then decided she wanted to continue with historic preservation. Did internship at Restore Oregon out of Portland Oregon last week promoted to the coordinator there. Answers public inquiries about Historic Preservation and community for resources. Vail are you living in Kalamazoo and just working in Oregon. She works remotely and works at the Kalamazoo Museum. Powell-Wilson what would be your focus as a member? I am interested in grants and assist people open to learning. Vail are you from the area she said no from Wisconsin but plan to stay in the area.
White moved the commission makes a recommendation to the mayor to appoint Eleanor Harris to Historic Preservation Commission
Powell-Wilson 2nd
2. O'Connor Fund Grant Making-Grant Recommendation
O'Connor 20,000 for total grants that not able to make grants last year will do 10,000 from last year that was talked about and 10,000 from this year so the total 20,000. The first one the Stuart area restoration association , the Civic and disability network. Stuart area is paint offices, Civic masonry, Disability network repairs to drive thru area. Pena and Hibbard work on getting agreements signed with the grantees. Pena total of 20,000 for 3 different organizations. The amount for the Civic 7626.00 the amount for the Stuart Neighborhood Association 4748.00 and Disability Network 7626.
Approve the grants totaling 20,000.00 to be divided as indicted in the staff report while also aligning in the process of the grant making subcommittee and put together agreements between the grantees and the commission and Hibbard. Edison so moved Akina 2nd
3. 2025 Budget
Pena said Chelsie Downs-Hubbarth put together this spread sheet. Starts in 2022 moves through potential budget next year. First common numbers are the 2022 budget then 2022 actuals then 2023 budget then actuals. 2024 budget and 2024 actuals we need to focus on before the 2025. We were not going to hit the 2000.00 sales mark so brought it down we were budgeted this year to make 1000.00 and have not done that and don't think we will do that. The rest will be zeros for now. Second category is expenditures on the bottom operating supplies, professional and contractual services, bank fee that we won't have any of, memberships subscriptions and professional development and fundraising. Financial committee task is codifying where money comes out of so we can budget appropriately. 2025 projected budget not

sure will be looking at projected revenues for next year. Fundraising we could see where the bulk of going into the O'Connor fund it makes sense to be deposited in the O'Conner fund where we will be gaining interest on it. Do we want to move some money from the O'Connor fund to have in the city account so we could have something if we needed it at the drop of a hat. Vail the 1700.00 in the professions services this year was that the conference here the registrations. Is that the right space for that? Pena has not been delegating where things should go, I assume full responsibility for things perhaps not being in the right place. Vail if not in there then the 1300.00 that we have in the reserve is not right either. White 3400.00 what we are spending on for the 2025 budget. Pena it is just tacking the past expenses and forecast. White the finance subcommittee can work on this. This is the city budget and needs to be in by September 3rd, 2024. Vail, we need a draft budget by the next meeting to approve.

4. COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Pena read the report.

5. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

White no finance report met a few days ago, discussed budget review, spending policy for O'Connor grant fund and set guidelines for spending need to tidy up package for gift requests. Pause until committee has a policy. Powell-Wilson asked will the commissioners be able to review before it is a policy. White yes need to have guidelines for gifts given. Kaila does not agree to put on pause HPC had a request at tonight meeting. Vail said it's not official need to know what we must give. White need to know how much the HPC can spend each year. Funding policy need to be set in place sub committees can meet and set up a draft in September.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Vail adjourned at 7:59pm

The mission of the Kalamazoo Historic Preservation Commission is to educate the public and city leaders on the value of preserving the City's historic resources and to advise the City Commission accordingly. Questions and comments regarding this agenda should be directed to the Historic Preservation Coordinator at 337-8804.

Comments under the "Public Comments" section of the agenda are limited to four minutes per speaker. During agenda items, comments from members of the public are also limited to four minutes each, unless the speaker is invited to join in the discussion by the Commission.