

KALAMAZOO HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Agenda – Tuesday, July 15th, 2025

5:00 pm

241 W. South St. Kalamazoo, MI 49007

I. Call to Order: Ms. Underwood called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM

II. Roll Call & Approval of Absences:

Katie Boertman- present
Dana Underwood – Present
James Johnson-Present
Dan Kastner- Absent
Kristi Breisach- Present

Motion made by Mrs. Breisach to approve the absence of Mr. Kastner with a second by Mr. Johnson.
All commissioners approve.

Mr. Pena read the disclaimer on record at 5:01 PM.

III. Approval of Agenda:

Amend the agenda to not approve previous minutes as the wrong months minutes were put in the agenda.

Amenda agenda to move 422 Stuart to be first application reviewed.

Motion made to approve amended agenda by Ms. Boertman with a 2nd by Ms. Breisach. All commissioners approve.

IV. Approval of Minutes: June 17th, 2025

Unable to approve minutes, May minutes were attached rather than June minutes.

V. Public Comment on non-agenda items: None

VI. OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A) 422 Stuart

5:03 PM

Year Built: 1884

**Alteration- Replacement of 3rd
Story window on west face of the
building
Style: Queen Anne
Historic District: Stuart**

Mr. Arnie Blok is here on behalf of the homeowners, and he is looking to replace the 3rd-story gable window. The window is on the roadside of the house and is currently not a historic window and is an aluminum pocket window and would replace with an aluminum clad window and all other parts of the exterior will be original and replace the cedar trim as needed. They want to replace the window for maintenance long term and the only window in that size that would allow the best path of egress. The bedroom is in a window. The size will remain the same. The window is no longer functioning and is jammed open and doesn't allow much ventilation. The new window will be a single awning pain with one vertical divider in the middle and will match the windows below. The current window is not an original window but would have had a window there originally as well. Mr. Johnson makes a motion to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness for the work as described in the application, the proposed work complies with the Secretary of the Interior standards 2, 6, 9 and 10 with a second from Ms. Breisach. All Commissioners approve.

B) 215 E Michigan 5:10 PM Alteration- Installation of sign
Year Built: 1886 Style: N/A
Historic District: Haymarket

Mr. Steve Vandersloot on behalf of Sign Art is looking to update a sign for Treystar. Treystar has recently moved into the second floor of this building. They are looking for a form of identification to let the public know where they are located. The sign is internally illuminated but the rest of the sign is opaque. The sign does meet zoning criteria and preferred placement on the building. The sign is a projecting sign and will have wiring concealed and will have no conduit exposed and will be installed in the mortar joints not the brick. The building is not a contributing structure. Ms. Boertman makes a motion to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness for the work as described in the application; the proposed work complies with the Secretary of the Interior standards 9 and 10 with a second by Mr. Johnson. All commissioners approve.

C) 402 E Michigan 5:15 PM Alteration- Installation of freestanding sign
Year Built: 1910 Style: Italianate
Historic District: Haymarket

Mr. Steve Vandersloot is also looking to install a new sign on behalf of Kalamazoo Community Foundation. The company is currently working on rebranding. The sign that is proposed is a more modern design as well as a contemporary design. The new sign will be a digital design and will be like the current sign in Bronson Park. The new sign does meet the current zoning criteria and is less in height than is allowed. The light will not be overly bright and will have no glare. They will have two signs and the other will be a directional sign. The main sign will run perpendicular to Michigan Ave. Mr. Johnson makes a motion to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness for the work as described in the application, the proposed work complies with the Secretary of the Interior standards 9 and 10 with a second from Ms. Breisach. All commissioners approve.

D) 1552 Academy
Year Built: 1956

**Alteration- Addition of solar
panels to existing array**
Style: Ranch
Historic District: West Main Hill

Mr. Chad Baker from Tiger Solar is looking to add 6 panels to the current solar array with a standard rail system with the batteries stored in the basement. The panels will be difficult to see from the road. Ms. Boertman makes a motion to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness for the work as described in the application, the proposed work complies with the Secretary of the Interior standards 2, 9 and 10 with a second by Ms. Breisach. All commissioners approve.

VII. Coordinator’s Report

- Review coordinators report
- HPC gravestone cleaning events

VIII. Adjournment

Ms. Underwood adjourned the meeting at 5:41 PM.

Chairperson

Date

Historic Preservation Coordinator

Date

Recording secretary

Date