

**CITY OF GRAND HAVEN
HISTORIC CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JULY 21, 2022 AT 5:00 PM
GRAND HAVEN CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
519 WASHINGTON AVENUE
GRAND HAVEN, MI 49417**

Call to order: Vice-Chair Robyn Vandenberg at 5:00pm

Roll call of members present: Commission Members Liza Dora, Chad Fisk, Linda Rosema, and Wendy Knoth.

Members absent: Chair Erik Bye, excused. Commission Member Patrick Qua, excused.

Others present: Mary Angel, Administrative Liaison; Jeannette Weiden, Loutit District Library Representative; and Kate Crosby, Tri-Cities Museum Advisory Member.

1) General Business Call to Viewing Audience – none

2) Approval of the May 19 and June 16, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes –Motion by Dora, second by Vandenberg. Approved unanimously.

3) Planning Commission Site Plan Reviews

[Refer to City Ordinance Ch 19-16(3) and Mainstreet Guidelines]

A "Site Plan Review" for 300 Washington, a residential condominium addition to the Capstone building was to be held on Wednesday, July 20 but was reschedule for Wednesday, July 27 (in preparation for the Planning Commission). Much discussion was held regarding this project and the historical significance of the original building that still exists prior to additions and last remodel of exterior. Member Dora reminded the commission that the original building was built in 1909 and was the Peoples Savings Bank of Grand Haven. The museum and library representatives reminded the commission that the bank is where the famous bank robbery of 1933 occurred. Member Fisk pointed out that the current architecture of the former bank building is historically significant due to the Art Deco style of the late 60's of its time; much of this architecture is being lost currently. The commission is of the consensus that it would be very difficult to bring the building back to its original architecture due to the fact that the current building encompasses 2 buildings and it is unknown what shape the original structure's exterior would be in when attaching the current façade.

Fisk motioned to recommend revising the color of the fiber cement board to a more neutral color that enhances the current façade and recommended investigating alternative materials that reflect the current façade. Second by Rosema. Approved unanimously.

Attachment A

Commission Member Dora will attend the Planning Department's Plan Review Meeting on behalf of the HCDC and will provide a report to commission at next meeting.

4) Tri-Cities Museum Advisory Member Update

Kate Crosby, Museum Advisory Member reported that the next big event will be the ice-cream social on August 18 from 6-8pm at the #1223 Pere Marquette Train, next to the Coal Tipple. She also reminded everyone that Collective Access is fully up and running and is a great way to find out all types of information about Grand Haven, from commercial buildings to private residences. She also reported that they are looking for more classroom curators, so if you know any teachers that want to bring students to the museum, contact her soon to set it up!

5) Loutit District Library Events Update

Jeannette Weiden, Loutit District Library Representative, reported that the summer Grand Adventures reading program is wrapping up. It was a great way to get people into the library this summer. At 6pm on this evening they were offering a lecture: Vintage Views of Michigan Tourist Attractions. For this fall they are collaborating with the Tri-Cities Museum and area schools for the upcoming Civil War and Noah Ferry (resident killed at Gettysburg) commemoration. There will be Civil War Gettysburg cemetery tours on November 1. The 5th Michigan Calvary Reenactors will also be performing at GHHS. Eric Wittenburg, Civil War Historian, will have a lecture at the library during this commemoration as well.

6) Other business not on the agenda (that members of the HCDC would like to address)

Dora reported that the HCDC, along with their families, have been invited by Andy Cawthon, Fountain Committee member, to tour the Musical Fountain facility after Coast Guard. Members were excited to have this opportunity.

Both Jeannette Weiden and Kate Crosby have offered to make a presentation at our September meeting on how to research.

7) Second General Business Call to Viewing Audience *none*

8) Adjournment - 6:31pm

Prepared by Liza Dora, Recording Secretary