

**CITY OF GRAND HAVEN
HISTORIC CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2023 AT 5:00 PM
GRAND HAVEN CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
519 WASHINGTON AVENUE GRAND HAVEN, MI 49417**

Call to order: Chair Liza Dora at 5:02 p.m.

Roll call of members present: Chair Liza Dora, Vice-Chair Erik Bye, Secretary Linda Rosema, Members Chad Fisk, Robyn Vandenberg, Nina Bryhn.

Absent (Excused): Patrick Qua.

Others present: Mary Angel, Administrative Liaison; Brian Urquhart, City Planner; Tim Price, Asst. City Manager; Kate Crosby, Tri-Cities Museum Advisory Member and Wendy Knoth.

1) New Member Nina Bryhn was welcomed after being appointed to the Commission by City Council on October 2 to replace Wendy Knoth. Chair Dora thanked Knoth for her service with flowers and a card from members. Cider and donuts were served in appreciation for her contributions. During refreshments, Bryhn told the commission a little about herself and why she wanted to be a part of this commission. Commissioners agreed that they were very happy to have her on board and can see that she will be another valuable asset to the City.

2) General Business Call to Viewing Audience – No viewing audience was present.

3) Planning Commission Site Plan Reviews – There were no new plans for review/comment at this time. Discussion for this item was moved to later in the agenda to allow for all members to be present as Fisk was delayed in traffic.

4) Consideration to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 20, 2023, of the Historic Conservation District Commission. Motion to approved by Bye, second by Vandenberg. Motion approved.

5) Tri-Cities Museum Update. Kate Crosby, Museum Advisory Member reported the upcoming Haunted Museum event on Saturday, October 28 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. with costumes and candy. The annual meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 14, at 5:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.tricitymuseum.org.

6) Loutit Library Update Report. Representative was not present. Dora highly recommended doing the Wicked Tour going on in Lake Forest Cemetery thru October 31.

7) Updates & Reports/Comments By HCDC Members.

a. Southwest Walking Tour Feedback – Member Qua asked for feedback on information provided via email. Members commented that there was a lot of information provided and it will need to be narrowed down. It was suggested to use a QR code attached to brochure to access the added information to make it more abbreviated on the actual paper. It was offered that maybe Jeanette Weiden would be able to help with this information.

b. Members Dora and Bye are still working on the East End District Walking Tour information and will have more details to share at the next meeting.

At this time, agenda item 3 was discussed.

- a. The RFP for 18-20 N. Fifth St, the Historic Grand Haven Police and Fire Department building was accepted by City Council. The developer plans are taking into consideration the Local Landmark Designation this building now carries.
- b. Capstone Co. submitted the only bid of \$450,000 to City Council and gave a presentation on Monday, October 16 with plans for development of the property that includes building 8-10 condos atop the existing garage area with 1.2 parking spots for condo site. The Police/Fire Dept. building itself will be updated and renovated to accommodate office space in which Capstone plans to occupy a portion for their use. They have to work through contingencies and receive approval from Planning Commission. The zoning is Mixed Use but can use Special Land Use for condos, but cannot use for Short Term Rental.
- c. There was discussion about the design and the possibilities moving forward to get more architects to submit plans in projects.
- d. The main reason for selling the Police/Fire Building is the high cost of maintenance and upkeep, which totaled approximately \$480,000 last year. Building needs about \$1.5 million to minimally renovate for continued use.
- e. Grand Haven Master Plan partial update was done in 2023, will be on the City website.

8) Second General Business Call to Viewing Audience – No viewing audience was present.

9) Adjournment 6:39 p.m.

Submitted by,
Linda Rosema, Secretary
Liza Dora, Chair