

VILLAGE OF CALUMET
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING

March 21, 2018

Present: Chairman Chris Green, Commissioner Abe Voelker, Commissioner Cassie Dronet, and Commissioner Sandy Johnson

Absent: Commissioner Dave Geisler

Also Present: Coordinator Michael Bleddynn, Architectural Advisor John Rosemurgy

Public: 1 present, Ian Klein of Laurium

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Chris Green at 5:31 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Agenda

Chairman Green requested approval of agenda.

Moved by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Dronet.

Motion carried unanimously (4/0).

Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes from February 21, 2018

Minor modifications to typographical errors. Moved by Commissioner Johnson that the minutes be approved with minor corrections for the minutes of the February 21, 2018 meeting and seconded by Commissioner Dronet.

Motion carried unanimously (4/0).

2. Petitions From the Public

1 regarding the vacant lot currently used as a park. There is concern over the land being sold, and local artists want the opportunity to also purchase the land. As this is being sold by the Village of Calumet rather than the HDC, Commissioner Johnson

discussed the history of the parcel and the current decision from the Village's monthly meeting.

3. Applications for Certificate of Appropriateness

1 from Calumet Floral. The window design submitted is outside the usual design guidelines after review from Architectural Advisor Rosemurgy and Commissioner Green. Architectural Advisor Rosemurgy will reach out to Calumet Floral. Commissioner Green expressed a willingness to convene a special meeting due to the shortened construction season.

4. Solar Panels in the Historic District

A potential buyer wishes to add solar panels to a historic structure. The HDC is open to solar panels depending on their appropriateness within the Secretary of the Interior's Guidelines and agrees to not unilaterally forbid the panels. However, UPPCO permits for metering are maxed out within Calumet. There is a concern about placement of the panels, the likely denial of tax credits by Michigan's State Historic Preservation Office, and the ability of the roof to withstand the additional weight. Chairman Green will draft correspondence and contact the potential buyer making them aware of the discussion and concerns.

5. Demolition by Neglect

The Demolition by Neglect ordinance is still being consolidated with the Blight and Dangerous Building Ordinances. An Enforcement Task Force is being established with a May 1, 2018 launch date. The Village of Calumet will use civil infractions with possible fines to enforce the new consolidated ordinance.

6. HDC Coordinator Report

Coordinator Bleddynn discussed Local Historic Districts Act, Act 169 of 1970. Section 399.205 Subsection 5.(1) requires a fire alarm system or smoke alarm complying with the Stille-DeRossett-Hale act. Coordinator Bleddynn will contact the Kalamazoo Historic Commission for information on how they implement the requirement for smoke alarms/fire safety systems on their Certificates of Appropriateness.

7. Architectural Advisor Report

John Rosemurgy discussed his FEMA assignment in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

8. Comments from Commissioners

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None

9. Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Voelker.

Moved by Commissioner Dronet.

Motion carried unanimously (4/0).

The meeting adjourned at 7:22PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Bleddynn, Coordinator
Village of Calumet, Historic District Commission