

PONTIAC HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY DECEMBER 10, 2013
6:00PM – REGULAR MEETING
LION’S DEN – CITY HALL
47450 WOODWARD AVE.
PONTIAC, MICHIGAN 48342

Call To Order: 6:08 PM

Commissioners:

Mr. Rick David
Mr. Robert Karazim
Ms. Kathalee James
Ms. Kathie Henk
Ms. Linda Porter
Ms. Tameka Ramsey

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN RICK DAVID, ROLL CALL, GORDON BOWDELL

MR. BOWDELL: JAMES?

MS. JAMES: HERE

MR. BOWDELL: BURCH?

MR. BURCH: HERE

MR. BOWDELL: KARAZIM?

MR. KARAZIM:

MR. BOWDELL: DAVID?

MR. DAVID: HERE

MR. BOWDELL: HENK?

MS. HENK. HERE

MR. BOWDELL: PORTER?

MS. PORTER: HERE

MR BOWELL: RAMSEY?

MS. RAMSEY:

EXCUSED: 1 COMMISSIONER KARAZIM EXCUSED

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER RAMSEY ARRIVAL SHORTLY AFTER ROLL CALL

ALSO PRESENT: MR. GORDON BOWDELL, MR. JAMES SABO

OPENING PUBLIC COMMENTS: MR BLAIR MCGOWAN, THE OWNER OF *THE CROFOOT* IN DOWNTOWN PONTIAC COMMENTED THAT HE WAS GLAD TO SEE A VOLUNTEER HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION TAKE ON THE CHALLENGES OF PRESERVING THE HISTORIC RESOURCES IN THE CITY OF PONTIAC.

MINUTES TO REVIEW: **NOVEMBER 12, 2013**

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: COMMISSIONER HENK MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES. COMMISSIONER BURCH SUPPORTED.

VOTE: AYES: 6 BURCH, DAVID, JAMES, HENK, PORTER, RAMSEY

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

DISPOSITION: MOTION TO ACCEPT MINUTES WAS APPROVED

OPENING DISCUSSION:

Commissioner Burch was asked for an update on his review of the ordinance. Commissioner Burch reported that though he did not spot any obvious arguments, it did not appear that the emergency manager had power to override state law MCL 399. Mr. Sabo agreed; stating that demolitions come before the Historic District Commission to comply with state law. Chairman David asked what should be the next steps. Commissioner Henk stated that we should identify community groups that would be interested in adopting a neighborhood to restore. Commissioner James stated that we should pursue changes to the bond as a first step and suggested that we should name a committee to draft the bond request recommendations. Commissioners Henk, Burch and Karazim were named to the committee. It was also requested that members should email them any thoughts or ideas you may have on the proposal.

REQUESTS FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

**HDC-13-57 – 15 (11) SOUTH SAGINAW STREET – DOWNTOWN COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT
APPLICANT – Blair McGowan, Eagle Theater Entertainment LLC**

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED SIGN REPLACEMENT (HDC-13-57 ELECTRICITY –EAGLE THREATRE ENTERTAINMENT, LLC AS IT APPEARS TO MEET THE SECRETARY OF INTERIOR STANDARDS FROM SECTION 74-75 OF THE PONTIAC HISTORIC DISTRICT ORDINANCE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

1. OBTAIN A DIMENSIONAL VARIANCE FOR THE INCREASED SQUARE FOOTAGE OF THE SIGN (CURRENT VARIANCE -85 SQ. FT.
2. 2. COMPLIANCE WITH ALL BUILDING CODE AND PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS.

COMMISSIONER HENK MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REQUEST PER THE RECOMMENDATION. COMMISSIONER BURCH SUPPORTED.

VOTE: AYES: 6 BURCH, DAVID, JAMES, HENK, PORTER, RAMSEY,
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

DISPOSITION: MOTION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED SIGN REPLACEMENT (HDC-13-57 ELECTRICITY –EAGLE THREATRE ENTERTAINMENT, LLC AS IT APPEARS WAS APPROVED.

CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENT:

COMMISSIONER PORTER STATED THAT THE OAKLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY AT PINE GROVE ON CESAR CHAVEZ AVENUE CAN BE USED AS A RESOURCE. IT IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, AND THEY DO RESEARCH AT REQUEST FOR A NOMINAL FEE.

COMMISSIONER HENK QUESTIONED WHETHER ***EAGLE ENTERTAINMENT*** WOULD BE TICKETED BECAUSE THEY DID NOT WAIT TO GET APPROVAL THROUGH THE COMMISSION. MR. SABO STATED THAT OFTEN STAFFING PLAYS A PART IN HOW QUICKLY THEY ARE ABLE TO ADDRESS NON-COMPLIANCE ISSUES, BUT TICKETS WILL BE ISSUED TO THOSE BUSINESSES IN VIOLATION OF THE ORDINANCE.

COMMISSIONER HENK MOTIONED TO ADJOURN MEETING. COMMISSIONER PORTER SUPPORTED.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:46 PM