

CITY OF PONTIAC, MI  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MINUTES

July 19, 2023

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## CITY OF PONTIAC, MI

### HISTORIC COMMISSION MINUTES

Wednesday, July 19, 2023 – 6:00 P.M.

*City of Pontiac City Council Chambers*

**1. CALL TO ORDER: (4:05pm)**

**2. ATTENDANCE**

Present: Chair Davis, Ken Burch, Kathy Henk, and Linda Porter (Quorum Reached)

Staff Members: Corey Christensen, Senior Planner

Justin Curry, Planner I

Raphael Leflore, Interim Building Official

**3. OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS**

None

**IV. AMENDMENTS TO & APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

A motion to approve the Historic District agenda for July 19, 2023 was made by Commissioner Henk and seconded by Commissioner Burch. Motion passed 4-0.

**V. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

Senior Planner Corey Christensen explained minutes from June 19<sup>th</sup> would be made available at the next meeting.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**VII. NEW BUSINESS:**

- |                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| A. Application #: | HDC 23-016           |
| Applicant:        | Mike Audish          |
| Request:          | New Composite Siding |

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Address: 130 Chippewa

Senior Planner Corey Christensen gave a presentation on the applicant's request. The applicant requested permission to install siding at 130 Chippewa with a composite, pressed wood material. The existing siding is wood and appears to be painted white. The proposed composite material will be beige. The proposed siding is not only a new material but a different design from the existing. The applicant originally filed an application stating that the proposed siding would be exactly the same as the existing siding. During construction it was discovered the applicant was changing the material and design to a composite wood. The application was revoked and the applicant was redirected to the HDC for a determination. Interim Building Official Raphael Laflore spoke regarding the quality of construction and other building related issues. Staff recommended denial.

The applicant, Mike Audish, spoke in defense of his original application. He argued that he submitted a sample material with his application and therefore the original approval should be honored. He argued the replacement material is not a cheaper material and the appearance of the structure will be improved. He expressed he would like clear direction on how to move forward as he wants to comply with the ordinance.

The public was provided an opportunity to speak for and against.

Sue Sinclair, 56 Miami, a resident of the Seminole Hills neighborhood spoke in opposition and also raised concerns about the roof having potentially been replaced without permits.

A contractor for the applicant spoke in favor.

After some discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Burch and seconded by Commissioner Porter to deny HDC23-016 to prohibit the applicant from replacing the original wood siding with a composite wood pressed material. Reasons cited by the Commission included the fact that the original approval should not have been issued and replacement with the historically accurate material was not cost prohibitive to the applicant. Motion passed 4-0 and the application as presented was denied.

**VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Sue Sinclair, 56 Miami, spoke regarding 86 Cherokee and requested staff investigate the changes occurring at this site.

**IX. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

- a. Staff updated the commission on the expected upcoming interviews for new commission members.

**X. Adjournment**

Commissioner Porter made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Burch seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

*Respectfully Submitted,*  
*Corey Christensen, Senior Planner*  
*Community Development Department*