

**CITY OF GRAND HAVEN  
HISTORIC CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSION  
GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN  
MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Grand Haven Historic Conservation Commission was called to order at 5:00 p.m., Thursday, October 17, 2019 by Chairperson Marsha Peterson at the City Hall Council Chambers, 519 Washington Avenue, Grand Haven, Michigan, 49417.

**Roll Call of Members Present:** Chairperson Marsha Peterson; Board Members Karen Casey, Bonnie Cowles, Cynthia Crane, Liza Dora, and Jane Stoecker (excused at 6:00 p.m.).

**Others Present:** Mary Angel, Administrative Liaison; Pat McGinnis, City Manager; Randy Smith, Main Street Preservation and Place Committee Chair and owner of Marüşhka; and Bob Monetza, Council Member.

**Members Absent:** None.

**1. Grand Trunk Depot Update**

City Manager Pat McGinnis handed out some brochures regarding the 2020 City Banner Program. The theme this year is "Patriotic" and honors all five branches of our military or a custom banner of a specific veteran is an option. The proceeds will go to a veteran fund as well as to our Main Street Program.

City Manager McGinnis reviewed the presentations and design concepts on the depot that had been previously discussed. He noted the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and that the most prevalent treatment "rehabilitation" is defined as "the process of returning a property to a state of utility, through repair or alteration, which makes possible an efficient contemporary use while preserving those portions and features of the property which are significant to its history, architectural and cultural values."

Alterations may include providing additional parking space on an existing historic building site; cutting new entrances or windows on secondary elevations; inserting an additional floor; installing an entirely new mechanical system; or creating an atrium or light well. Alteration may also include the selective removal of buildings or other features of the environment or building site that are intrusive and therefore detract from the overall historic character.

The depot is a contributing historic building and the "rehabilitation" approach should not remove it from the National Register of Historic Places.

Estimates, without touching the outside wall, are around a half million dollars.

- 2.** Chairperson Marsha Peterson thanked City Manager McGinnis for reviewing the design concepts for the depot with the commission. However, the HCDC cannot endorse for several reasons. She emphasized the depot did indeed 'anchor the Historic District as recognized by the National Registry of Historic Places and the depot building itself is on the *State of Michigan Register of Historic Sites*. To change the depot's architecturally significant features which include the semicircular arched windows and regularly spaced brick pilasters would compromise our historic designation. Given that these architecturally and historically significant arched doorways are already ADA compliant, Chairperson Marsha Peterson stated that it is the *Historic Conservation District Commission's* position and recommendation to the City of Grand Haven that no changes to be made to the existing exterior façade, other than replacing the windows with tempered glass.

**3. Approval of the September 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes.**

Moved by Karen Lowe, seconded by Cynthia Crane, to approve the September 19, 2019 Historic Conservation District Commission minutes, as corrected. This motion carried unanimously.

There was a typo in the motion to elect Jane Stoepker; it was corrected to state "secretary" rather than "chair."

**4. Approval of the 2020 Meeting Schedule.**

Moved by Cynthia Crane, seconded by Bonnie Cowles, to approve the 2020 Historic Conservation District Commission Meeting Schedule, as follows:

**HISTORIC CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSION**

**Meets monthly, 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs, 5:00 pm, City Hall**

01/16/20	04/16/20	07/16/20	10/15/20
02/20/20	05/21/20	08/20/20	11/19/20
03/19/20	06/18/20	09/17/20	12/17/20

This motion carried unanimously.

**5. Local Landmark Application – Washington Street Inn, 608 Washington, Grand Haven, owned by Tony and Michelle Ciccantelli.**

A presentation is tentatively scheduled at a Council Meeting to be held on November 4. Chair Marsha Peterson encouraged all members to attend!

**6. Lighthouse Conservancy Update (Next Meeting October 31 @2:00 p.m.)**

Report by Cynthia Crane, HCDC Member Representative

Cindy stated that they were collecting donations for the Phase II "Inside Out" Lighthouse fundraiser that would be held over Winterfest in January 2020.

**7. Tri-Cities Museum Advisory Member Update.**

Marsha Peterson stated that over \$12,000 was raised from the Tri-Cities Historical Museum fundraiser that was held on October 10 in recognition of their 60th anniversary. She also noted that the Tri-Cities Historical Museum was the recipient of a \$30,000 donation from "Woman Who Care," which now has about 300 members. The money would be used for improvements and renovations to the Education Room that is downstairs.

**8. Adjournment.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Angel, Staff Liaison

Jane Stoepker, Secretary