

**CITY OF GRAND HAVEN  
HISTORIC CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2022  
GRAND HAVEN CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
519 WASHINGTON AVENUE, GRAND HAVEN, MI 49417**

**Call to order:** Chair Erik Bye 5:04pm

**Roll Call of Members Present:** Chair Erik Bye; Vice-Chair Robyn Vandenberg; Commission Members Karen Casey, Liza Dora, Paul Martin, vacancy and vacancy.

**Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Mary Angel, Administrative Liaison, Kelly Beattie, City Clerk; Jeannette Weiden, Local History/Genealogy; and Erin Pilarski and Kate Crosby, Tri-Cities Museum Advisory Member.

**1) General Business Call to Viewing Audience**

None

**2) Approval of the February 17, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes.**

Motion by Casey, second by Dora. Approved unanimously.

**3) Planning Commission Site Plan Reviews (if necessary)**

None

**4) City Staff/Attorney Review of Chapter 19 Update – History of the City of Grand Haven Ordinances**

Jennifer Howland, Community Development Manager, sent an email informing the Commission that she has forwarded changes to the City Attorney for review but has not received any response as of today's meeting.

**5) Recommendation to City Council regarding the registration of Mulligan's Hollow as an official Michigan Historic Site and permitting the erection of an Historic Marker on the site recognizing Native American Settlement and the early ownership of the site by the Bennet Family.**

A presentation was given by Wallace Ewing, local historian, and Jon Jellema, former State Representative and resident of Grand Haven. Corresponding documentation of research regarding Mulligan's Hollow's rich history was distributed to members. They are hoping to be able to include the HCDC endorsement in the application to the State of Michigan, to allow an official Michigan Historic Site marker to be placed in an approved location in Mulligan's Hollow. The commission had a discussion regarding this and is very much in favor of endorsing this project.

Weiden asked if applicants needed to get approval from City Council before they could apply. Ewing stated it is a prerequisite to the application process. Weiden asked if this research was corroborated with any indigenous residents that might be available in this area. The commission concurred that it is a very good idea to include affected heritages in any research to help bridge our ethnic diversity and make these type of markers even more inclusive. Ewing stated that he had not reached out at this time. Kate Crosby and Erin Pilarski, from the Tri-Cities Historical Museum, offered to provide contact information to Ewing of contacts that she is aware of in the area. Motion by Casey to endorse, seconded by Martin. Approved unanimously.

**6) Tri-Cities Museum Advisory Member Update** Report By Erin Pilarski, Museum Advisory Member, introduced Kate Crosby. Pilarski and Crosby will be switching rolls and Crosby will now be the advisor to this commission due to her knowledge and background. The museum is very excited to be able to offer more in person programming. Crosby announced their will be a Grand River Fashion Exhibit at the museum from May 20-October 2. Also, Volunteer Appreciate week begins April 13 and the event will culminate with a celebration on April 20 from 5:30-7pm. All are welcome to attend to thank volunteers, learn more about volunteering, etc.

**7) Loutit District Library Events Update** Report By Jeannette Weiden, Local History/Genealogy reported the Museum and Library are collaborating on the Civil War recognition for this year that will begin on Flag Day and end on Veterans Day. A lecture with Gleaves Whitney, Executive Director of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation, will be June 14 at the library. They are planning lots of activities and events, maybe even some Civil War reenactors.

**8) Other Business Not On The Agenda** (that members of the HCDC would like to address) Dora mentioned that she has seen a letter in the GH Tribune that got her to thinking that maybe the commission needs to let City Council know how the commission feels about the Diesel Plant. The commission had a good discussion on this matter of both saving and not saving the building. A motion was made by Dora and second by Vandenberg to draft a letter to City Council that every effort to preserve the "total building exterior façade". Approved unanimously. Casey offered to draft this letter.

**9) Second General Business Call to Viewing Audience** *[3 minutes per person]* \*  
None

**10) Adjournment** 6:13pm

Submitted by Liza Dora, HCDC Member and Recording Secretary