



Historic District Commission

Thursday, January 26, 2023

City Hall Council Chamber, Room 205

1315 S Washington Avenue

Saginaw, MI 48601

989-754-8222

I. Call to Order - Commissioner Mixer called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

II. Roll Call – Commissioner Rooker took roll. Quorum present.

Members Present: Kevin Mark Rooker, Darla Hane, Jordan Chambers, Alex Mixer, Lee Amo, Andrew Naumann

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Bob Gollin, City Planner; Cassi Zimmerman; Amy Lusk, City Attorney

Others Present:

III. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Amo, seconded by Commissioner Hane to approve the December 22, 2022 meeting minutes. Motion approved.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Mixer added 2023 Goals under old business.

Motion by Commissioner Rooker, seconded by Commissioner Chambers to approve amended agenda. Motion approved.

V. Public Comment – none

VI. New Business

a. Election of Officers

Commissioner Mixer opened the floor for nominations for officers.

Motion by Commissioner Chambers, seconded by Commissioner Amo to nominate Commissioner Mixer for chair.

Motion by Commissioner Amo, seconded by Commissioner Mixer to nominate Commissioner Rooker for secretary.

Motion by Commissioner Mixer to nominate Commissioner Chambers for Vice Chair. He declined.

Motion by Commissioner Chambers, seconded by Commissioner Hane to nominate Commissioner Amo for Vice Chair.

Slate stood as Chair Mixer, Vice Chair Amo, and Secretary Rooker. Motion approved.

VII. Old Business

a. 2023 Goals

Commissioner Rooker will finish the colorways for approval in the first quarter.

Commissioner Mixer would like to elicit input on what neighborhoods would like to see happen. Also, to see that buildings in Old Town and along Niagara are up to code and kept in good shape. Commissioner Amo stated we should move forward with enforcing the demolition by neglect ordinance on three priority buildings, 108 N. Niagara, 301 Cass, and 121 N. Hamilton. Commissioner Hane confirmed with staff that the ordinance has been fully adopted.

Motion by Commissioner Amo, seconded by Commissioner Hane to request the Chief Inspector issue letters according to the Demolition by Neglect Ordinance to the property owners of 108 N. Niagara, 301 Cass, and 121 N. Hamilton. Motion approved.

Commissioner Amo spoke about the Jakes building and what appears to be unapproved window cuts. Commissioner Rooker spoke of his frustration and anger that he feels this commission is consistently ignored as opposed to other city commissions. He also said it was within the purview of this commission to order the unauthorized work reversed. Commissioner Mixer echoed the same. Commissioner Amo asked how much in advance are blueprints sent out to the commission. Staff Gollin stated that all meeting materials are sent to commissioners a week prior to the meeting. He also stated that the floorplans approved by the commissioner included the window cuts, but the elevations drawings did not. Commissioner Mixer and Amo both stated that changes should be written out, not just in blueprint form. Subtle things on blueprints are missed by people who are not experts in reading floor plans.

Commissioner Hane asked if communication between city staff, residents, commission, and project developers could be improved. Commissioners spoke about sharing responsibility to attend neighborhood meetings.

Commissioner Hane stated that she would like the commissioner to focus on all buildings in the historic district not specifically targeting Niagara Street.

VII. Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Rooker, seconded by Commissioner Amo to adjourn the meeting at 4:48. Motion approved.

Respectively Submitted Commissioner Kevin Mark Rooker, Secretary.