



**Meeting of the Plymouth Township Historic District Commission  
Thursday, August 20, 2020 - 7 p.m.**

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**Next Meeting date October 12, 2020**

**This meeting will be held via Zoom video and conference call in compliance with Governor Whitmer's Executive Order 2020-48 and similar orders regarding the Covid-19 pandemic.**

**Topic: Plymouth Twp. Historic District Commission 8/20/20 @ 7 pm  
Time: August 20, 2020**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84815957964>

**Meeting ID: 848 1595 7964  
Passcode: 714102**

**One tap mobile**

**+16513728299,,84815957964#,,,,,0#,,714102# US (St. Paul)  
+17866351003,,84815957964#,,,,,0#,,714102# US (Miami)**

**Dial by your location**

**+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)  
+1 646 518 9805 US (New York)**

**Meeting ID: 848 1595 7964  
Passcode: 714102**

**Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kek1hfNL1y>**

**AGENDA**

**1) CALL TO ORDER**

**a) Roll Call**

**2) APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 20, 2020 CONSENT AGENDA**

**3) ENACTMENT OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

**a) Approval of the June 11, 2019 Meeting Minutes**



#### **4) BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

#### **5) NEW BUSINESS**

##### **a) HDC First Year Accomplishments**

##### **b) HDC Wish List**

1. Budget for using the archives at the Plymouth Historical Society (charge every time get in and charge to use archives)
2. Budget to use the Wayne County Registrar of Deeds (Darrin Sylvester says it is \$50 for them to look up just one deed)?
3. Trail Cam for Shearer Cemetery
4. No dumping signs at Shearer
5. Historic Plaque for one home per year
6. Money to print Tourism brochure \$500
7. Marker at Township Park \$2,661
8. Shearer Cemetery Marker \$2,661
9. Training from MHPN \$600 will Northville Township split the cost with us?

#### **6) OLD BUSINESS**

##### **a) Shearer Cemetery – Wendy**

1. Clean up in progress! It is looking great!
2. What we have discovered about Shearer.

##### **b) Historic Plaques/Markers – Jack Dempsey**

1. We have a quote from Spectrum in Dearborn to produce an historical marker like the one at Daisy Square for \$2,661

##### **c) Dedication ceremony for the State historical marker update – Jack Dempsey and Wendy Harless**

1. We have the marker, to be installed in September
2. Let's go over the invite list and possible dates. - Attachment

##### **d) Historic Resources Survey – Wendy Harless**

1. The spread sheet on Google docs
2. Everyone give their updates
3. Jack's new idea for organizing the list.



4. We are not limiting the survey to the Plymouth Michigan Discoveries sites and the tourism brochure sites. If you know of a structure in the township that you believe to be older than 50 years, let's get an address and photos and include it in the survey.

e) Tourism brochure

1. Go over draft of letter to property owners whose buildings we would like to include in the tourism brochure-get commissioner's input. *-Attachment*
2. Graye's Greenhouse says they would love to be included and have historic photos that we can use!

f) Plymouth Township History factoids for the Township Newsletter-*update from Wendy Harless*

1. There is an online monthly newsletter, in addition to the printed and mailed quarterly newsletter
2. Everyone present your new history facts for the newsletter

g) Joe Oldenburg talk update-*Wendy Harless*

h) HDC logo ideas-look at mock ups-*Wendy Harless*

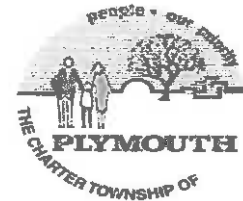
**7) Commissioners Comments**

**8) Public Comments**

**9) Adjustment**

**The Public Is Invited and Encouraged to Attend All Meetings of the Historic District Commission of the Charter Township of Plymouth.**

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION  
MINUTES--REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2020**



Chairperson Harless called the regular meeting of the Historic District Commission to order at 7 p.m. via Zoom video and conference call, in compliance with Governor Witmer's Executive Order 2020-48 and similar orders regarding the Covid-19 pandemic.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Colleen Azimi  
Dennis Cebulski  
Jack Dempsey  
Kevin Gurtowsky  
Wendy Harless  
Sybil Hunter  
Carol Souchock

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Laura Haw, AICP, NCI, Planning Consultant  
Alice Geletzke, Recording Secretary

**2) APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 11, 2020 AGENDA**

Moved by J. Dempsey and seconded by C. Azmi to approve the agenda for the regular meeting of June 11, 2020. Ayes all.

**3) ENACTMENT OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

**a) Approval of the December 5, 2019 meeting minutes**

Moved by J. Dempsey and supported by C. Azmi to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 5, 2020. Ayes all.

**Approval of the May 4, 2020 meeting minutes**

Moved by D. Cebulski and supported by C. Souchock to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 4, 2020. Ayes all.

**4) BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

W. Harless had comments regarding the changes to House Bill 0054. She also noted that the work on Phoenix Mill is continuing and is only slightly behind because of the COVID crisis.

The Larry Oldford house was also discussed and the difficulty to obtain historic district status because of many changes made to the structure. Possibilities for inclusion in other districts was considered, possibly thematic such as stagecoach stops, though verification would be necessary.

**5) NEW BUSINESS**

**a) Meetings for 2020 are as follows:**

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION  
MINUTES--REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2020**



1. August 20<sup>th</sup>, 7 p.m.
2. October 12<sup>th</sup>, 7 p.m.
3. December 4<sup>th</sup>, 7 p.m.

**b) Do we need a logo for the HDC?**

It was determined to check with Supervisor Heise as to what Township approval might be involved and if there should be a tie-in to the Township logo. The item is to be placed on the August 20 agenda.

**6) OLD BUSINESS**

**a) Shearer Cemetery – Wendy**

1. **Clean-up? What do we want to do?**
2. **List of things we need:**
  - i. **Plymouth Township Introduction – Jack Dempsey**
  - ii. **List and background of each committee member-everyone**
  - iii. **Description of the District – Colleen Azimi**
  - iv. **Description of the resources**
  - v. **Contributing and non-contributing resources**
  - vi. **Photographic inventory – Colleen Azimi**
  - vii. **Boundary justification – we have this from Laura Haw**
  - viii. **Historical background of Plymouth – Jack Dempsey**
  - ix. **Historical background of Shearer Cemetery**
  - x. **Significance of the District**
  - xi. **Recommendation – Colleen Azimi**
  - xii. **Bibliography – All**

Discussion was held on whether to do some clean-up this fall or skip this year. High school students were unable to be contacted this year by Darrin Sylvester because of school closings. It was suggested that he be contacted for pointers and a guide to the whereabouts of gravestones.

It was mentioned that the work of the students should be included in the description of resources because they are a big part of the history of the cemetery.

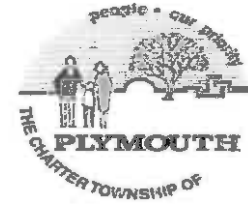
*(S. Hunter left the meeting at 7:30 p.m.)*

**b) Historic Plaques – Jack Dempsey**

- 1) **Discussion of potential look of plaques – everyone present their ideas**

<https://www.pinterest.com/rubydynasty1/historic-building-plaques-signage/>

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION  
MINUTES--REGULAR MEETING  
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It was noted there are hundreds of different styles, and commissioners discussed giving recipients options for attaching it to their building or placing it on a post on the property. It was suggested that the logo, @year, and a number corresponding to an available description be placed on the plaque. Materials are to be considered and priced, including bronze and aluminum. Some fund-raising suggestions were "Go Fund Me" or establishment of a "Friends Of" group, as well as asking help from existing foundations.

**c) Dedication ceremony for the State historical marker update – Jack Dempsey and Wendy Harless**

It was mentioned that Supervisor Heise has the location in mind and J. Dempsey indicated that the plaque manufacturer is backed up in filling orders. However, the guest list can be determined and some of the suggestions made were for including state officials and service organizations, including the Chamber of Commerce.

**d) Resolution in support of Senate Bill 0054 update – Laura Haw**

It was brought up earlier that there will be changes to the bill.

**e) Historic Resources Survey – Wendy**

1. Ken Garner to take photos along 5 Mile Road
2. Wendy to take photos of structures in our historic tourism brochure
3. Staff at Township has been able to copy all of PlymouthMichiganiscoveries.com text – Wendy Harless needs to put together a spread sheet of addresses and send out to the group.

Among the items discussed were whether to take videos or photographs, quality standards for the photos, and attempting a shot of the façade as well as a ¾ view and view of any interesting details,

**f) Tourism brochure**

1. Updated list was mailed out-everyone present their top 5 choices and support them.
  1. Should we start drafting a letter to building owners asking permission to include them and, if possible, a photo?

Mentioned for inclusion were: Phoenix Mill  
Historical Marker  
Burroughs Building  
Tibbits House and Barn  
Shearer Cemetery  
Township Park (Rockwell Statues)

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION  
MINUTES--REGULAR MEETING  
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**g) Plymouth Township History factoids for the Township  
Newsletter-update from Wendy Harless**

- 1. Sybil wrote a post for the latest newsletter and Wendy submitted another one for the next newsletter.**
- 2. Everyone present your topic for the year.**

DEHOCO history was mentioned as well as Phoenix Mill and its employment of women at equal pay.

**h) Joe Oldenburg talk update-Wendy Harless**

Ms. Harless noted that Mr. Oldenburg was agreeable to making an on-line presentation regarding the history of DEHOCO, and with giving HDC a copy of the information. Could be with library as co-host.

**7) Commissioners Comments**

Status of Courthouse Grill demolition and obtainment of artifacts was discussed, with possibilities on where the artifacts might go if obtained. Ideas for placement can be forwarded to J. Dempsey. C. Souchock mentioned that small items such as menus might be displayed at the library for a brief period.

**8) Public Comments – There were none.**

**7) ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by C. Souchock and seconded by K. Gurtowsky to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. Ayes all on a roll call vote.

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Wendy Harless, Chairperson  
Historic District Commission  
Plymouth Township, Michigan

**Plymouth Township Historical Marker Dedication Invitation List  
Fall 2020**

Board of Trustees (7)

HDC members (7)

Members of other PT boards and commissions

Members of Arts, Recreation and Heritage Committee of the Citizens Advisory Council

Chamber of Commerce Exec. Dir. Wes Graff

Plymouth Historical Museum board and exec. dir.

City of Plymouth Mayor Wolcott  
“                   Manager Sincock

Wayne County Executive Evans

Wayne County Commissioner Melissa Daub

State Senator Dayna Polehanki

State Representative Matt Koleszar

U.S. Representative Haley Stevens

35th District Court Judges

Shearer Cemetery coordinator Darrin Sylvester

Service clubs and the like

A. Lincoln Civil War Round Table

Elks

Kiwanis (2)

Lions

Plymouth Arts & Recreation Center

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools

Plymouth Community Arts Council

Plymouth Community Council on Aging

Plymouth Garden Club

Plymouth Preservation Network

Rotary

Trailwood Garden Club



Vietnam Veterans

Wilcox Foundation board members Dan Herriman, Edwin Schrader

MITC Redevelopment Authority board

WTUA board and exec. dir.

Members of the public

[Note: if we desire, a member of the Michigan Historical Commission will attend]

DRAFT letter to homeowners

Dear Plymouth Township Historic Property Owner,

The Plymouth Township Historic District Commission is working to create a Plymouth Township Heritage brochure for locations in Plymouth Township that are either architecturally or historically important. We intend for this project to be a celebration of our rich collective community history. We are contacting you today to ask for your input on this project.

We are asking for your permission to include your historic building/location in this first of its kind brochure. We realize that this type of project has never been produced in Plymouth Township before and so property owners will many have questions.

We have set up an email address for your inquiries and suggestions. Please reply to this letter by e-mailing (email address here) with your input. We are looking for your thoughts on the inclusion of your property in this project and your suggestion for other possible locations that you feel might be of interest to this project.

We realize that this type of material could be sensitive for some homeowners and that is why we are asking for your input before we do any further research on this project.

Thank you very much for your time and input,

Wendy Harless  
Chairperson  
Plymouth Township Historic District Commission