

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Landmarks Preservation Commission  
Held in the Caucus Room of the Municipal Building  
On Wednesday, January 9, 2019**

The Chairman, Matt Smith, called the meeting to order at 7:18 P.M.

**Roll Call**

Members: Present –Vice Chairman Ralph White; Chairman Matt Smith  
Absent - Lois Shinko; Clint Gault

**Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of Wednesday, December 12, 2018**

Mr. Smith stated that since there were not enough members present to vote on approval of the minutes of the meeting of Wednesday, December 12, 2018, this item will be postponed until the next meeting in February.

**Landmarks Letter of Recognition – Ralph White**

Mr. White stated that he did not have a letter for this month and has decided to wait until spring to begin sending the letters again. In the spring when properties will be getting cleaned up, flowers planted, and trees trimmed, etc. things look better and it is easier to judge who should receive a letter.

Mr. Smith asked if Mr. White had an estimate of how many homes he would like to send a letter of recognition in the course of a year, or from spring to fall. Mr. White said it is a random number; there might not always be one. There are only so many anyway and out of those they are not all eligible to get a letter in his mind. Mr. Smith said, right, and in some cases, it may take several months or a year for new owners to take a house and make it eligible. Mr. White and Mr. Smith then had a short discussion about two houses by Veterans Memorial Park where this has been what has happened.

Mr. Smith stated that he needs to speak to the Mayor or Rose Seighman, the Mayor's Administrative Assistant, about getting some prepaid envelopes so that Mr. White does not have to go through the trouble of being reimbursed for postage when he mails the letters of recognition. Mr. White said, yes, that would make things a lot easier, although he would still want to mail the letters himself so that he can have the post office stamp "do not bend" on them and make sure it is done right.

**Landmark Nominations – Lois Shinko**

Mr. Smith stated that since Ms. Shinko is not present, there is not anything to discuss for this item on the agenda. Mr. White did say that he did not know if Ms. Shinko had received a reply from the pastor of the Church of God on Detroit Road, who had requested a landmarks designation and a plaque for the church. Ms. Shinko had contacted her but had not heard anything as of our last meeting.

Mr. Smith asked Mr. White how many of the Avon historic landmark plaques are left and Mr. White said there were less than 10. He has a couple at his house and there were 4 or 5 at the Old Town Hall. Mr. Smith asked him if he had the information on the company that produced the plaques. He said he would like a copy of that information because he does not have that in his binder with the homes and he feels another person should have that information on record. Mr. White agreed and said that he has

other things that they have spoken about, things that he acquired from the original Landmarks Preservation Commission, and that should be given to Mr. Smith as record. They are better in Mr. Smith's hands because he is the Chairman. Mr. Smith said that he would come to Mr. White's house in the next week or two to get those things. Mr. White said we talked about this once also: for houses that have plaques and are being considered for demolition. If the house is approved for demolition and is going to be torn down, we should request that we get the plaques back so they could be used again.

### **Comments**

There was discussion about how members of the LPC are appointed and the terms of members. Mr. White said he had talked with Ms. Seighman about the need for changes in regard to appointments and they felt that when the Charter Review comes up the next time around it will probably be reworded and changed on how we are chosen. He said that he did not know how other cities did it. Mr. Smith said that that is something we need to explore and Mr. White said we should talk about it next month when the other two members are present. He said he did not even know that his term was up until Ms. Seighman called him, so we need to talk about terms for all our members so that we can plan accordingly. Mr. Smith agreed that it definitely needs to be discussed next month.

Mr. White felt that it should be mandatory for a member of the LPC to let the Chairman or Vice Chairman know if they cannot make it to a meeting. It is just out of courtesy to us and then we need to know what to do and we can move on. Mr. Smith agreed and said also, if there are citizens here who have come for whatever reason, we can tell them that we can or cannot vote depending on who is going to be here. Mr. White said, yes, that is important and he added that maybe Mr. Smith needs to put that on the agenda for next month. Mr. Smith said that he would do that.

Mr. White stated that he was concerned about the landmark house at Palmer Village, the Stickney House. It is in neglect and he has a feeling that they will be in here looking for a demolition permit. He said he hates to see that house demolished. He has called to make a complaint about a couple issues with it and the owner did address them but they were minor things. There is a broken window in it now, the paint is really deteriorating and he would like to know what the owners are thinking. And then there is Conrad's old house on Stoney Ridge Road that is on our list. It is now vacant and he does not see anything going on there. Someone had come in to our meeting awhile ago; she and her husband were going to buy it and demolish it and build a new house in the back but obviously they chose not to buy it.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

Mr. Smith stated that the next meeting of the Landmarks Preservation Commission would be held on Wednesday, February 13, 2019, in the Caucus Room of Avon City Hall at 7:00 P.M.

### **Adjourn**

Mr. Smith declared the meeting adjourned.

Transcribed by Gail Hayden, Assistant Clerk of Council

