

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Avon Landmarks Preservation Commission
Held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building
On Wednesday, January 10, 2024**

Susan Pintz, Planning Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals Secretary, called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Roll Call

Members:

Present –David Morahan; Cynthia Murnyack-Czarnecki; Theresa Szippel; Ralph White

Others in Attendance: Law Director John Gasior; Susan Pintz

Appointment of a Chair

Mr. White nominated Cynthia Murnyack-Czarnecki for Chair of the Avon Landmarks Preservation Commission.

Since there were no other nominations, Ms. Pintz declared that Cynthia Murnyack-Czarnecki is the elected Chair of the Avon Landmarks Preservation Commission. Ms. Murnyack-Czarnecki then proceeded to Chair the rest of the meeting.

Appointment of a Vice-Chair

Mr. Morahan nominated Ralph White for Vice-Chair of the Avon Landmarks Preservation Commission.

Since there were no other nominations, Ms. Murnyack-Czarnecki declared that Ralph White is the elected Vice-Chair of the Avon Landmarks Preservation Commission.

Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Avon Landmarks Preservation Commission Held Wednesday, December 13, 2023

A motion was made by Mr. White and seconded by Mr. Morahan to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Avon Landmarks Preservation Commission held Wednesday, December 13, 2023, and approve said minutes as published. The vote was all ayes and the Chair declared the motion passed.

Discussion of a Submission from the Avon Landmarks Preservation Commission to the City Newsletter

Ms. Murnyack-Czarnecki noted that there was an attachment to the agenda that was emailed to all members of the Avon Landmarks Preservation Commission. This attachment was a copy of an article to be submitted to the "All About Avon" newsletter with broad information about the Avon Landmarks Preservation Commission and its work. Ms. Murnyack-Czarnecki asked if there was any discussion about the contents of the submission or any suggestions for additions or changes to what is planned to be submitted? Each member said they had no changes.

A motion was made by Mr. White and seconded by Mr. Morahan to approve the submission from the Avon Landmarks Preservation Commission to the City newsletter as submitted. The vote was all ayes and the Chair declared the motion passed.

Mr. White stated that everything that was in the submission will probably not be used; the editor will pick and choose. Ms. Murnyack-Czarnecki said, yes, the plan is to submit this to the editor, Paula Pitasky, and from here she will determine what she wants to include in the newsletter.

Landmarks Nominations – Ralph White

There were no nominations at this time.

Landmarks Letters of Recognition – Ralph White

Mr. White stated that he has a Letter of Appreciation for the restoration of the porch of Dr. Pipe's House on Detroit Road. The owners have restored the porch and have done a nice job. They are not quite done with it yet but we do not have to send the letter out right away either. Mr. White gave a draft of the letter to everybody for them to read and said we will all sign it when it is completed and we will either mail it or he will deliver it. Ms. Murnyack-Czarnecki then read the letter and a copy is hereby attached.

Member Comments

Mr. Morahan said to Mr. White that he had done a nice job on the letter.

Ms. Murnyack-Czarnecki stated that she would personally like to congratulate Theresa Szippel on her appointment to this Commission and to welcome her. Her passion for the history of our community and her commitment to preserving it will be an asset to this Commission.

Audience Comments

Matthew Smith, 4455 Jaycox Road, Avon, thanked Ms. Szippel very much for joining the Landmarks Preservation Commission. He said that he knows her very well through the Avon Historical Society and knows she will do very well here. He just wanted to say thank you and good luck and we will support her in any way that we can.

Mr. Smith then said he and Mr. White discussed the submission to the Avon City Newsletter and brainstormed some ideas. One thing he thought of later on was that he and Mr. White, representing the Landmarks Preservation Commission as well as the Avon Historical Society, gave several tours of the Cahoon House along with Sheri Seroka. So part of that effort of giving the tours was upon the Landmarks Preservation Commission as we were representing this group. He does not know if that was in the submission and that was really important. That was not with the regularly scheduled tours that the Parks Department gave; that was on their time that they were doing that.

Ms. Murnyack-Czarnecki thanked Mr. Smith and said that, as the submission has been approved as submitted, they will add information about the tours of the Cahoon House to it.

A motion was made by Mr. White and seconded by Mr. Morahan to accept the addition of information about the tours of the Cahoon House to the submission to the City newsletter. The vote was all ayes and the Chair declared the motion passed.

Ms. Murnyack-Czarnecki asked if the tours were conducted by Ms. Seroka, Mr. Smith, and Mr. White and Mr. Smith said, yes, all three of them. Ms. Murnyack-Czarnecki asked what type of groups were brought to the Cahoon House to tour? Mr. Smith said that the Rose Senior Living Facility came and another senior citizen group, and they also did Wilbur Cahoon's 250th birthday party there a year ago in December. Ms. Murnyack-Czarnecki asked if any tours were given to student groups from the schools or from civic organizations that young people are in and Mr. Smith said that there were no specific school groups but when they gave tours, there were multiple children and teenagers there with their families. He and Mr. White commented about seeing grandparents and parents there with kids and they were really pleased with the amount of young people who came.

Mr. White asked if Mr. Smith knew when the Cahoon House Museum is going to open back up? Mr. Smith said, no, but last year it was mid-April when they opened. He said he was sure that the opening date will be published at some point.

Rick Varga, City Arborist, 33676 Reserve Way, Avon, stated that they have been working on the outside at the Cahoon House and have put in the Folklore Garden and are also working on a traditional colonial herb garden. He was hoping that once that is established, we could extend the tours to the gardens and have everybody aware of what they actually went through back in those times; how they used all these plant materials for medicinal purposes as well as for food. Mr. White asked Mr. Varga if he would make the list of all the different things and Mr. Varga said that he has it all started of what they used the plants for and where they are from, etc. so he will have all that. If nothing else, he was thinking we could have that available for handouts when people come and they can go out there and look at the garden themselves. Mr. White asked where the garden is on the property and Mr. Varga said right there as you go in on the south side. The Folklore Garden which they put in about two years ago is really established now and last year they started to work on the Herb Garden. So this year that all should be up and pretty much established.

Ms. Murnyack-Czarnecki announced that the next Regular Meeting of the Avon Landmarks Preservation Commission would be held on Wednesday, February 14, 2024, at 7:00 P.M., in the Council Chambers of Avon City Hall.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Mr. White and seconded by Mr. Morahan to adjourn the meeting and the vote was all ayes. The Chair declared the motion passed and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Gail Hayden, Assistant Clerk of Council

January 10, 2024

Re: Historic Property at 37399 Detroit Road, Avon, Oh 44011
Known as The Dr. Pipes House
Colonial Revival Style, Circa 1900

Dear Homeowner,

This letter from the Avon Landmarks Commission (L.P.C.) and the Avon Historical Society (A.H.S.) is in recognition and appreciation of the restoration of the front porch of your Avon landmark home. Thank you for keeping within the original architectural style.

Your home is a valued asset as one of Avon's registered historic landmarks. Past owners of this home include a local Doctor, an Elyria Businessman, and a former Avon Mayor. Your investment and dedication to this project has not gone unnoticed.

Your devotion and the time necessary for the upkeep of a historic home can be considerable and your endeavors set a fine example for others to follow. As the current caretaker of such a home, your responsibility in keeping it a fine example of Avon's history for future generations is greatly appreciated.

With sincere gratitude,

Cynthia Murnyack-Czarnecki, L.P.C Chairperson

Ralph White, L.P.C. Vice-Chairman and A.H.S.
President

David Morahan A.P.C. Member, Mayor's Appointee

Theresa Szippel L.P.C. Member, French Creek
Foundation Appointee