

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Landmarks Preservation Commission
Held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building
On Wednesday, January 12, 2022**

The Chairman, Matt Smith, called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Roll Call

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

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of November 10, 2021

A motion was made by Mr. White and seconded by Mr. Gault to dispense with the reading of the minutes of November 10, 2021, and approve said minutes as published. The vote was all ayes and the Chairman declared the motion passed.

Mr. Smith pointed out that approval of the December minutes was not on the agenda tonight because he was the only member present in December and so no meeting was held.

Landmarks Letter of Recognition – Ralph White

Mr. White said he had nothing.

Landmarks Nominations – Lois Shinko

Ms. Shinko said she had nothing.

Comments – Center Cemetery

Mr. Smith stated that originally Mike Farmer was going to meet with them regarding the Center Cemetery, but he is no longer in the position of Service Director. So Mr. Smith spoke with Mayor Jensen and another meeting will be set up with the Mayor in the near future to discuss the cemetery and the headstones.

Mr. White said that Mike Farmer had told him that there were records and photographs of work that was already done at the Cemetery by another company and the City has paid for that. That is why Mr. Farmer was coming to the meeting because Mr. White asked him to come and bring the papers and pictures of things that were done. If those exist, he would like to see them as he thinks it is important. And if that company is doing a good job we could stay with them because he has asked for estimates from Tim Stallman, who met them at the cemetery in the fall, but he has not provided the estimates at this time.

Mr. Smith said that after Mr. White gives him a time that is good for him, he will call the Mayor's Administrative Assistant to check on the Mayor's calendar and get something set up. He will then call Mr. White and also Ms. Shinko and Mr. Gault to tell them when the meeting is scheduled. He asked if Ms. Shinko and Mr. Gault had any comments and Ms. Shinko agreed that the work at the Cemetery should be done. Mr. Gault stated that he had talked with the Mayor about it and he liked the idea of the LPC looking into it and seeing what could be done.

Mr. Smith said that he would just like to comment on the status of the Cahoon House. He said that he was at the Cahoon House recently just to look around and it looked really nice the way that Sheri Seroka had it set up. Then last week he met at the Cahoon House with Erin Robichaud who is a volunteer for a group called Americorps, which is like the United States version of the Peace Corps. Ms. Robichaud lives in Oberlin, based out of the Oberlin Heritage Center. Mr. Smith gave her a tour of the Cahoon House and asked her questions about getting grants or funding to run the Cahoon House as a museum, and also questions about whether it can be run as more than a museum for activities or renting it out for meetings or social events, just different multi uses for the building. Her connection with Americorps is in the history arm of it and she has some ideas. She was very nice and informative and very willing to help. They were supposed to meet with Mayor Jensen tomorrow but there were circumstances that came up that she could not make it tomorrow so Mr. Smith is going to reschedule that meeting.

Mr. Smith said that he and Mr. White went to the Rose Hill Museum in Bay Village several weeks ago, which is also a Cahoon House. It is the house of Wilbur Cahoon's half brother and was built in 1818 and is very similar to the Cahoon House here in Avon. The Rose Hill Museum is run by the Bay Village Historical Society. Mr. Smith was there with Ms. Seroka two years ago and they spoke to the same gentleman that spoke to Mr. White and himself, just getting some ideas. He wanted Mr. White to see it because when he and Ms. Seroka went into that museum, they both agreed that is how they would like the Cahoon House to be.

Ms. Shinko stated that she still has things for the Cahoon House that are sitting in her living room. Mr. Smith said to Ms. Shinko that there is not another inch to put anything in there. There are antiques in the basement and in the garage; Ms. Seroka has nowhere else to put them. Mr. White said to Ms. Shinko if they are Avon artifacts that she has, to just keep them for now, whatever they may be.

Mr. Smith noted that he planned to talk with Ms. Seroka soon. He wanted to wait, though, until after Ms. Robichaud gives her presentation to Mayor Jensen.

Mr. Smith advised that the Avon Historical Society website is in the process of being created. He was recently in a Zoom meeting with Jason Hirz, who is a member of the Avon Historical Society and is the one really in charge of getting the website done. They are working with a company called Civic Engage which runs the City of Avon's website, and so far everything is going along on the timeline. From his personal point of view, Mr. Smith wants to get some of the information from his father's old website put on the new website. And he thinks the new website will help out with the LPC as we can post things there. Civic Engage said the website would take probably about six months from start to finish and Mr. Smith believed their first official meeting was in late November.

Adjourn

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

Transcribed by Gail Hayden, Assistant Clerk of Council