

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Landmarks Preservation Commission  
Held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building  
On Wednesday, March 8, 2023**

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

**Roll Call**

Members: Present –Vice Chairman Ralph White; Cynthia Murnyack-Czarnecki; Chairman Matt Smith (Clint Gault was also present but arrived just after Roll Call)

**Correspondence**

None

**Additions and Deletions to the Agenda**

None

**Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Landmarks Preservation Commission Held Wednesday, February 8, 2023**

A motion was made by Mr. White and seconded by Ms. Murnyack-Czarnecki to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Landmarks Preservation Commission held Wednesday, February 8, 2023, and approve said minutes as published. The vote was all ayes and the Chairman declared the motion passed.

**Update on Center Cemetery; John Bowman – Ralph White**

Mr. White stated that he had a meeting with Rose Seighman, the Mayor’s Administrative Assistant, and they went over the first phase of work at the Cemetery, which is basically completed. He said that also he talked with Mike Milano of Milano Monuments and he said that, with weather permitting, he was going to get the very top of the Sweet Monument marker on. He and Mr. Milano are going to meet at the Cemetery probably towards the end of March and they are going to mark the location of John Bowman’s lot and then Mr. White is going to stake it and after that, plan on putting in the new post and replacing the marker with the post that was made by Dave Morahan’s company, Forward Motion; they did a real nice job. Mr. Smith said that he planned on being there with Mr. White and any of the other members of the LPC are welcome to be there. Mr. White said that the new post is stainless steel and will last 200 years. Mr. Morahan offered to help him install it because it is rather tall and has to be hammered in. Once it is in, it will be pretty permanent; it cannot twist or move, or be bent and of course it will not rust.

Mr. White said, so when the weather is good, he will get together with Mike Milano and synchronize time with Dave Morahan and go up and get that done. Mike Milano will begin the second phase of the work in April or May. He had taken a bunch of pictures and submitted them to the Mayor’s office and Mr. White thought that one of the reasons that Rose Seighman called him was to verify what has been done and what is yet to be done. She had questions about the second phase of the work and Mr. White told her that they are taking a south/north or north/south swipe in different sections; way up the hill and then down the hill from west to east. They started at the west and they will finish at the east and do so much

at a time; that way they go all the way across and they will not miss anything. He added that he will update everybody when the Bowman marker is replaced.

Mr. Smith stated to Mr. White that he had said that he would like to have a letter written for Dave Morahan, thanking him for what he did and Mr. White may want to mention that now to Ms. Murnyack-Czarnecki. Mr. White then asked Ms. Murnyack-Czarnecki if she would please do that, to write a letter of appreciation and thanks to Mr. Morahan. She could bring it to the next meeting so they could all look at it and sign it and Mr. White would mail it to him. Mr. Smith reminded Mr. White that when he had discussed this with him, he wanted the Mayor to sign the letter also and Mr. White said, yes, we could have the Mayor sign it.

Ms. Murnyack-Czarnecki said that before they move on, she wanted to give an update about researching the John Bowman plaque itself and researching the individual John Bowman. The last contact that she had with Brenda Guggenbiller, the Wakeman Branch Manager of the Huron County Community Library, was on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. She said that she reached out to her again yesterday on March 7th because she had not had any response from her. Ms. Guggenbiller apologized and said that within the next two weeks, if we have not heard from her, to contact her again. She will attempt to get the research done for us.

Mr. Gault noted that the work at the Cemetery is going great. It is good to see progress being made as he drives by. The Cemetery is a focal point of so many people going through Avon and it is nice to see it is improving.

#### **Cahoon House; Indian Artifacts – Matt Smith**

Mr. Smith said that he wanted to mention that the Cahoon House is officially under the jurisdiction of the Parks and Recreation Department; Clare Harasimchuk is the Recreation Coordinator. Mayor Jensen wanted one office dealing with the Cahoon House Museum. The Museum will be open starting Wednesday, April 29, 2023, from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. and then it will be open on Wednesdays, from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P. M. and on Sundays from 1:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M., which is the same schedule it was last year.

Mr. Smith said that he would recap the Indian artifacts. When we had the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday party for Wilbur Cahoon at the Cahoon House back in December, Charles, “Chuck”, Smith of Avon graciously donated Indian artifacts to the Museum and since that time, Mr. Smith has been working with Nicole Rambo-Ackerman here at City Hall. She wanted to get the artifacts mounted in display cases and put up at the Cahoon House Museum so Mr. Smith said that he would get them identified as far as what time periods the different tribes created those artifacts. There are arrowheads, spear points, knives, hatchets, a pipe, and a plumb bob in there. On February 18<sup>th</sup>, the Firelands Archaeology Group met at their office in Sheffield Village and he and his brother, Tom, took the artifacts to the meeting. Dr. Brian Redmond of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History and an expert on Northeast Ohio Indian tribes, told them the time periods when the artifacts were all created. They took notes on that and Mr. Smith later typed that up and marked on the artifacts, using a special archeological marker, that they were found in Avon, Ohio, and numbered them and made a key. He gave all that to Ms. Rambo-Ackerman so she has the collection now and is in the process of getting them mounted. Her goal is to get them in the Museum before it opens in April.

Mr. Smith said he was very excited doing that. The Firelands Archaeology meeting was an interesting time and it was fun getting the artifacts identified. It is important to know that before settlers got here, there

were settled people here for 15,000 years. He added that all the artifacts were found on the Cahoon property.

### **Landmark Nominations – Ralph White**

Mr. White said that he did not have any nominations at this time.

### **Landmark Letters of Recognition**

Mr. Smith asked Ms. Murnyack-Czarnecki if she would just like to mention that she is working on an updated letter. Ms. Murnyack-Czarnecki said, yes, she was working on an updated Landmark Letter of Recognition that can be used, utilizing the mail merge features of Excel and Word and also can be individualized to the home or the business. She said that next month she will have a paper copy as an example for our Commission members to review.

### **Member Comments**

Mr. Gault stated that the French Creek Foundation has a new event kicking off this year, which is “Christmas in July”, and they will feature and focus on kids who are going through tough times. For the first year, the event will be held at Main Event; they have been very gracious. Another sponsor is Mark Wahlberg Chevrolet who has been very helpful in the process and the City has been fantastic and very helpful. The goal is to show these kids who are going through tough times that they are very special and important and they matter and we care. So from a French Creek Foundation perspective, there are a lot of good things happening.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

Mr. Smith stated that the next meeting of the Landmarks Preservation Commission would be held on Wednesday, April 12, 2023, in the Council Chambers of Avon City Hall at 7:00 P.M.

### **Adjourn**

A motion was made by Mr. White and seconded by Mr. Gault to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Landmarks Preservation Commission and the vote was all ayes. The Chairman declared the motion passed and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Gail Hayden, Assistant Clerk of Council