

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Landmarks Preservation Commission
Held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building
On Wednesday, March 9, 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 February 9, 2022

A motion was made by Mr. White and seconded by Mr. Gault to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the meeting of February 9, 2022, and approve said minutes as published. The vote was all ayes and the Chairman declared the motion passed.

Landmarks Letter of Recognition – Ralph White

Mr. White said he had nothing.

Landmarks Nominations – Lois Shinko

Ms. Shinko said she did not have anything.

Comments

Mr. White said that, regarding the Center Cemetery, he has talked with Chris Yeager of Atlas Concrete Leveling but has not yet met him at the Cemetery because the weather has continued to prevent that. It is just a matter of getting some good weather and Mr. Yeager said he will meet us there. He said that he did not think the leveling would work but he is willing to look at it and advise us about it and maybe give us other information that we could use. So Mr. White said he was just waiting for good weather to call Mr. Yeager and then make arrangements with Mr. Smith so that he could be there also. Mr. Smith said, yes, he definitely wants to be there.

Mr. Gault noted that Avon is doing a great thing by establishing the Avon Tree Commission. Part of the beauty of the City is all the trees and part of the history of Avon is some of the trees that are within it. So good things are going on with that and it looks like we are having a focal point to try to preserve not just the houses in Avon but also some of the great trees that have been here for a long time. Mr. Smith added that he knows that Mr. White has pointed out some of the trees and plantings at the Cemetery that need to be trimmed up.

Mr. White said that he would also like to mention just to make a note of it that three historical properties on Detroit Road are possibly threatened. One is on the east end and that is the Colvin/Sweet House; the land has been sold to a developer and he does not know anything else. The Stickney House, which is just past ZZ's, has been sold and there are interested people in the property. Again, we do not know what the outcome will be but it is for sale again; somebody bought it and is reselling it. Also, Buck's Hardware is for sale. Mr. White said he just wanted to let everybody know that these things are going on, just to pay attention and if they hear anything, we will talk about it at upcoming meetings. Mr. Gault asked if Buck's

Hardware is officially on the market and Mr. White said as far as he knew. Craig Buck is retiring and he has not been there all week. Mr. White heard that somebody bought the contents of the store and that it was going to wind down the end of this month.

Ms. Shinko said that she has been very interested in what is happening with the store; she has been in the upstairs and has seen all the things and is very attuned to keeping that building. Mr. White said that would be nice but it has not been maintained over the years. He said again that he just wanted everyone to know the things that are going on and we may be getting demolition permit requests in the future. Mr. Gault asked if the whole Buck's Hardware building is going to be for sale or the whole property and Mr. White said, the whole property. He added that somebody else owns the house right behind it and that is also for sale.

Mr. Gault said, to Mr. White's point, the hard part with a lot of these places is putting in the energy and time and effort into keeping them up. For example, the house that used to be right next to his office in Avon. There was water damage in it and it was just let go and it kind of fell apart and then at some point when people want to tear it down, you agree with that. It is hard to find that balance where you do not want it to be a burden on people to have to do work when you have an historic home but you also want to preserve the integrity of a property.

Mr. Smith stated that he and Mr. White saw Mayor Jensen recently and Mr. Smith asked about the Cahoon House. The Mayor said that at some point, he wants to bring City Council in there to check it out as an open house which is a good idea. Mr. Smith asked the Mayor if the Parks and Recreation Dept. is going to have somebody occasionally open it for people and he is thinking about what to do concerning that.

Date of Next Meeting

Mr. Smith stated that the next meeting of the Landmarks Preservation Commission would be held on Wednesday, April 13, 2022, in the Council Chambers of Avon City Hall at 7:00 P.M.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Mr. Gault and seconded by Mr. White 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