

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Landmarks Preservation Commission
Held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building
On Wednesday, July 14, 2021**

The Chairman, Matt Smith, called the meeting to order at 6:59 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 Wednesday, June 9, 2021

A motion was made by Mr. Gault and seconded by Mr. White to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the meeting of Wednesday, June 9, 2021, and approve said minutes as published. The vote was all ayes and the Chairman declared the motion passed.

Removal of Properties from Landmarks List – Kurt and Judy Cummings

Ms. Cummings was sworn in by Chairman Matt Smith.

Ms. Cummings stated that she and Mr. Cummings were there to ask that their two properties at 36951 Detroit Road and 36981 Detroit Road be removed from the Historical Registry. The reason they are asking for the removal is because they have sold the properties and the buyer is asking as part of their agreement that he has options. Mr. Smith noted, so the sale is not final yet. Ms. Cummings said, no, they have a potential buyer and one of his stipulations was that they would request the Landmarks Preservation Commission to remove the property from the registry so he would have options. Mr. Smith said, so the deal will not go through until that is done and Ms. Cummings responded, yes, that is part of the deal; the buyer said that would be a big part of it.

Mr. White asked exactly what properties these were and Ms. Cummings said that they are the home and the Secret Garden Flower Shop just east of the Old Town Hall on the corner of Detroit Road and Stoney Ridge Road. She said the properties have been in their family for quite some time and they have just decided that with their older age, they want to simplify their lives and to find a good buyer. Mr. White stated that the home has had insurance businesses in it. Ms. Cummings said, yes, and she believes the other house has been a florist shop for many years.

Mr. Smith asked if there were any comments from the members of the LPC.

Mr. White stated that to have a property on the Landmarks List is not preventing anybody from doing anything. It is a big misconception to think that the City is going to tell someone that they can or cannot do something because their property is on the Landmarks List. It is not like that. And we have had properties removed and then the owners want to put them back on. Mr. White said that the house right next to the Old Town Hall, especially, is a landmark and he would hope that they would renovate it. He asked Mr. and Mrs. Cummings if they knew what the buyer's plans are and Ms. Cummings said that he did not say; he just asked for options.

Mr. Smith stated that the way he looked at this, as in the Cummings case, is the fact that it is designated as a landmark is a hindrance in a sale because the City put a label on it 20-some years ago and that should

not be. He thought that process was done in reverse. Back in 2002 when they said buildings were historic, he would have given the owners an application and said to fill it out if they wanted to be on the Landmarks List. Instead the City put them on the list and there were many angry people wanting to get off.

A motion was made by Mr. Gault and seconded by Mr. White to remove the properties at 36951 Detroit Road and 36981 Detroit Road from the Historical Landmarks List for Avon. The vote was all ayes and the Chairman declared the motion passed.

Landmarks Letter of Recognition – Ralph White

Mr. White stated that he did not have anything for this month.

Landmark Nominations – Lois Shinko

Ms. Shinko said that she did not have anything.

Comments

There were no comments.

Date of Next Meeting

Mr. Smith stated that the next meeting of the Landmarks Preservation Commission would be held on Wednesday, August 11, 2021, 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 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