

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Landmarks Preservation Commission
Held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building
On Wednesday, November 11, 2020**

The Chairman, Matt Smith, called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

Roll Call

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

Absent - Lois Shinko

Guests: Paula Pitasky, City of Avon Community Liaison Consultant

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of Wednesday, October 14, 2020

A motion was made by Mr. White and seconded by Mr. Gault to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the meeting of Wednesday, October 14, 2020, and approve said minutes as published. The vote was all ayes and the Chairman declared the motion passed.

Update on Scenic Byway Signs – Paula Pitasky

Ms. Pitasky stated that she had talked to the Service Director, Mike Farmer, today about a timeline for the Scenic Byway signs. He thought that it would be spring of 2021 when they would be installed. Ms. Pitasky said that she would keep everyone posted when they get prototypes, etc. and Mr. Smith stated, yes, he would definitely like to get a look at the signs before they put them up.

Landmarks Letter of Recognition – Ralph White

Mr. White said that he had nothing for this month.

Landmark Nominations – Lois Shinko

Lois Shinko was absent but Mr. White reported that he gave a landmarks application to the owner of the Buckingham House on Detroit Road. He has not had a response yet from the owner but it is a possibility. Mr. Smith said that was good; that house is in beautiful condition.

Comments

Mr. Gault stated that good things are going on with the French Creek Foundation, which Ms. Pitasky does a great job helping out with. This year, in lieu of the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony and Walk that we typically do, we are doing “Light Up the Holidays” from November 21st through to the New Year. We are encouraging everybody on Detroit Road in particular, but really everybody in Avon to decorate and light their businesses and their houses. He said they have talked to the pastor at Providence Church and they are going to do some things, and Mike Laub, the Supt. of Schools, has talked to people who are going to coordinate and light up the bus garage area. St. Mary’s of the Woods always does an amazing job of decorating every year. We are trying to get as many people as we can to play a role and help out; the more we can do to brighten the spirit the better. He said that, hearing the Governor’s talk today, they are going into a more stringent mode of mask requirements and will be monitoring things. If things do not get better, they are going to look at shutting down more things.

Mr. Gault said, but on a positive note, a COVID vaccine from Pfizer came out on Monday that is 90-plus per cent effective and that is incredible. He added that he thought that there is some variation of a vaccine as well where if you have COVID and it is getting worse, they can give you a shot for emergency use which suppresses it to some degree and so it is amazing to hear the breakthroughs that are coming through with this. So people are very fearful right now but there really is good coming around the corner soon and so we are very hopeful.

Ms. Pitasky stated that she would just like to add to the news of the French Creek Foundation. She said that this coming weekend a group of them are meeting at Avon Isle with Rick Varga, the City arborist, and they are putting together the planters that will decorate up and down Detroit Road. The French Creek Foundation has always been very pivotal in that. Rick Varga has designed a really beautiful planter that is utilizing "historical" plants from Avon – from our playground and from the Cahoon House and different areas like that. So it is kind of a cool thing and they are excited to put that together with the French Creek Foundation.

Mr. Smith said, mentioning the Cahoon House, he would just give a quick update on what Sheri Seroka is doing there. She wants to get the rooms prepped before she puts the antique furniture in so she has a painter who was supposed to go in this week to take care of some of the rooms and Mike Farmer had an electrician going in to deal with some of the outlets that needed to be replaced, etc. Also, Ms. Seroka wants to have a cleaning company do a deep clean of all the rooms and then get an exterminating company to go in for the mice, spiders, etc. Then she will hire a moving company and just in one day get all the furniture in the appropriate rooms, so she will have that all spread out where she can work on cleaning up that furniture. So that is the latest update from her so things are starting to pick up again after the shutdown all summer because of the pandemic.

Date of Next Meeting

Mr. Smith stated that the next meeting of the Landmarks Preservation Commission would be held on Wednesday, December 9, 2020, 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