

BIRMINGHAM HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 5, 2018
Municipal Building Commission Room
151 Martin, Birmingham, Michigan

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Historic District Commission (“HDC”) held Wednesday, December 5, 2018. Vice-Chairman Keith Deyer called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

1) ROLL CALL

Present: Vice-Chairman Keith Deyer; Commission Members Doug Burley, Patricia Lang, Michael Willoughby; Alternate Member Dulce Fuller

Absent: Chairman John Henke; Commission Members Natalia Dukas, Gigi Debrecht; Alternate Member Kevin Filthaut; Student Representatives Grace Donati, Ava Wells

Administration: Matthew Baka, Sr. Planner
Carole Salutes, Recording Secretary

12-52-18

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES
HDC Minutes of November 7, 2018

Motion by Mr. Willoughby

Seconded by Mr. Burley to approve the HDC minutes of October 3, 2018 as presented.

Motion carried, 5-0.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Willoughby, Burley, Deyer, Fuller, Lang

Nays: None

Absent: Dukas, Henke

12-53-18

3) HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW

539 S. Bates (applicant has requested to be postponed to January 2, 2019)

12-54-18

**361 E. Maple Rd.
Hawthorne Building**

Mr. Baka announced there are two new members that were just appointed to the HDC but one is absent presently. Ms. Dukas will be back on January 2, so the chances to get seven members on that date are very high.

Mr. Chris Longe, the architect, asked for postponement of his hearing to January 2.

**Motion by Mr. Willoughby
Seconded by Mr. Deyer to move the review for 361 E. Maple Rd. to January 2.**

Mr. Mel Kaftan, 369 E. Maple Rd., commented from the audience. He is next door to the proposed building. Mr. Kaftan said that he doesn't understand why the hearing is being postponed. This Commission didn't like the proposal and turned it down. Now the applicant hasn't modified their plan as this Commission said they must. He thought the plan should be turned down and let the applicant start from scratch.

Mr. Willoughby said that his understanding is that the applicant has a right to postpone.

Mr. John Gaber, Williams, Williams, Rattner & Plunkett, P.C., attorney on behalf of the applicant, stated they would like the opportunity to put their proposal in front of a full board. Vice-Chairman Deyer corrected one sentence in Mr. Gaber's letter. The HDC has never initiated postponement of their hearing; rather they have honored the applicant's request for postponement. Further, the Vice-Chairman suggested if they bring the same proposal forward again it will end up with the same result.

Motion carried, 5-0.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Willoughby, Deyer, Burley, Fuller, Lang

Nays: None

Absent: Debrecht, Dukas

4) STUDY SESSION (no discussion)

12-55-18

5) MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. Staff Reports

- Administrative Approvals (none)
- Violation Notices (none)
- Demolition Applications (none)

B. Communications

- Commissioners' Comments
- Relative to the discussion on 361 E. Maple Rd. Mr. Baka indicated that he met with Mr. Longe before the last meeting and explained about some of the things that are recommended by the National Park Service. However, Mr. Baka opined that Mr. Longe is at the mercy of his client.
- Mr. Baka said there will be no meeting on December 19.

12-56-18

ADJOURNMENT

No further business being evident, the Commissioners motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Matthew Baka
Sr. Planner