

**Historic District Commission
Minutes Of July 19, 2023**

151 Martin Street, City Commission Room 205, Birmingham, MI

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Historic District Commission ("HDC") held July 19, 2023. Chair Henke called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1) Rollcall

Present: Chair John Henke; Board Members Gigi Debbrecht, Michael Willoughby; Alternate Board Members Mary Jaye, Steven Lemberg; Student Representative Ian Weinberg

Absent: Board Members Keith Deyer, Natalia Dukas, Dustin Kolo, Patricia Lang

Staff: Planning Director Dupuis; City Transcriptionist Eichenhorn

2) Approval of the HDC Minutes of June 7, 2023

07-20-23

Motion by Ms. Debbrecht

Seconded by Ms. Jaye to approve the HDC Minutes of June 7, 2023 as submitted.

Motion carried, 5-0.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Henke, Debbrecht, Willoughby, Jaye, Lemberg

Nays: None

3) Courtesy Review

4) Historic Design Review

A. 163 W. Maple – Seven Daughters (Postponed from June 7, 2023 – REQUEST TO POSTPONE INDEFINITELY)

07-21-23

Motion by Mr. Willoughby

Seconded by Ms. Debbrecht to postpone the historic design review for 163 W. Maple – Seven Daughters indefinitely.

Motion carried, 5-0.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Henke, Debbrecht, Willoughby, Jaye, Lemberg

Nays: None

B. 138 W. Maple – Blakeslee Building

PD Dupuis presented the item and answered informational questions from the HDC.

Keith Mazias, of the Najor Companies, spoke on behalf of the project.

HDC members' comments were:

- It would be helpful to see older photos of the building, and those photos should be used to either argue for the proposed changes or to inform modifications to the design to make it more acceptable;
- The proposed design included no attempt to restore the historic aspects of the building. The applicant should look into the history of the building and make an attempt to restore it; and,
- The HDC referenced the project at 100 N. Old Woodward and its attempts to restore the historic aspects of the building.

07-22-23

Motion by Mr. Willoughby

Seconded by Ms. Debbrecht to postpone the historic design review for 138 W. Maple – Blakeslee Building to August 16, 2023.

Motion carried, 5-0.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Henke, Debbrecht, Willoughby, Jaye, Lemberg

Nays: None

5) Sign Review

6) Study Session

A. Historic Preservation Master Plan

PD Dupuis recommended the conversation be postponed until a fuller board was present.

7) Miscellaneous Business and Communication

A. Pre-Application Discussion

B. Draft Agenda

C. Staff Reports

1. Administrative Sign Approvals

2. Administrative Approvals

3. Demolitions

4. Action List

5. 320 Martin – Stone Cornice Repair

PD Dupuis presented the communication and answered informational questions from the HDC.

Ms. Jaye said it was unfortunate that the issue arose.

In reply to Ms. Debbrect, PD Dupuis said maintenance reviews of historic buildings could be built into the Planning Department's procedures.

It was noted that it seemed the issue arose from the roofing installation.

8) Adjournment

No further business being evident, the HDC motioned to adjourn at 7:30 p.m.



Nick Dupuis, Planning Director



Laura Eichenhorn, City Transcriptionist