

**Historic District Study Committee**  
**Minutes Of February 3, 2020**  
Conference Rooms 202 & 203  
151 Martin, Birmingham, Michigan

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Minutes of the regular meeting of the Historic District Study Committee ("HDSC") held Monday, February 3, 2020. City Planner Nicholas Dupuis called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**1. Roll Call**

**Present:** Board Members Paul Beshouri, Jake German, Colleen McGough, Michael Xenos

**Absent:** Board Member Jonathan DeWindt

**Administration:** Nicholas Dupuis, City Planner  
Laura Eichenhorn, City Transcriptionist

**2. Approval Of The Minutes From June 17th, 2019**

**Motion by Mr. German**

**Seconded by Mr. Xenos to approve the minutes of June 17, 2019 as submitted.**

**Motion Carried 4-0.**

**VOICE VOTE**

Yeas: German, Xenos, Beshouri, McGough

Nays: None

**3. Collaborative Preservation Projects**

CP Dupuis introduced the item.

There was consensus that the HDSC would support the GCAB in projects if asked but would let the GCAB take point on any Greenwood Cemetery-related projects.

The Committee also discussed updating information regarding historic homes in Birmingham, including going through the files the City has, potentially digitizing the information, and taking photographs of the homes.

**4. Heritage Home Program Study Session**

CP Dupuis introduced the item. He noted that there were minimal records on the program.

There was consensus among the Committee members that updating the City's information on current Heritage Homes would be useful, including surveying and photographing the houses.

They also discussed a public awareness campaign for homeowners and the public regarding current Heritage Homes and homes approaching the 100-year mark which could then be called Heritage Homes.

Mr. Beshouri said it might be worthwhile to have the proceeds from selling the Heritage Home plaques go to something historic-preservation related.

The Committee agreed to seek approval from the City Commission to work on updating the Heritage Home program.

Mr. Xenos said it would also be useful to audit the Wallace Frost homes in Birmingham.

### **5. HDSC Priority List**

CP Dupuis introduced the item. He asked if the HDSC would be interested in revamping and updating their priority list.

The HDSC concurred they were interested in updating their priority list.

There was discussion regarding enhancing the HDSC's online presence. Adding an interactive map of historic and Heritage properties was discussed as one way to do so.

There was consensus that ending the year with a viable Heritage Home program would be a worthwhile goal.

CP Dupuis said he would also be bringing in professionals for historic trainings and that members of the HDSC would be welcome to attend.

Ms. McGough recommended that Birmingham look into historic home walking tours put together by other cities to see if Birmingham could model a similar program of those. She mentioned Charleston, SC, Oak Park, IL, and Shaker Heights, OH as initial potential sources of inspiration. She said that it need not be an item on the priority list, but could just be something that the members of the HDSC casually work towards.

CP Dupuis said he would integrate the Committee's comments into an updated priority list.

#### **Motion by Mr. Xenos**

**Seconded by Mr. German to focus on auditing the City's 51 Heritage Homes and to seek approval from the Commission for the audit.**

**Motion Carried 4-0.**

#### **VOICE VOTE**

Yeas: Xenos, German, Beshouri, McGough

Nays: None

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

No further business being evident, the committee members motioned to adjourn at 6:28 p.m.



Nicholas Dupuis  
City Planner

APPROVED