

Village of Lewiston
Historical Preservation Commission

Minutes – Thursday, June 24, 2019

- CALL TO ORDER Ken Slaughenhoupt called the Historical Preservation Commission meeting to order at 6:05PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- PRESENT Ken Slaughenhoupt, Loretta Frankovitch, Jim Fittante, Susan Hofert, Rita Geiben, Peter Coppins and, Deputy Treasurer Stephanie Myers
- MINUTES Ken Slaughenhoupt made a motion to approve the May 28, 2019 minutes. Ken Slaughenhoupt asked that an amendment be made to correct the spelling of Slaughenhoupt.
- Ken Slaughenhoupt asked that a change be made that the motion passed with four yes votes because we are only allowed five and Ken Slaughenhoupt abstained.
- Loretta Frankovitch said she sent Stephanie Myers a few corrections as well.
- Stephanie Myers stated that the corrections Loretta Frankovitch sent have already been completed.
- Loretta Frankovitch made a motion to approve minutes from the May 28, 2019 meeting as amended, and Rita Geiben seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.
- OLD BUSINESS
1. **505 CAYUGA ST. NATIONAL DESIGNATION** – Ken Slaughenhoupt said we did receive notice that the First Presbyterian Church and the Village Cemetery have been added to the National Register. We now have five listings, The Frontier House, Indian Burial Mound and the Gully.
- Ken Slaughenhoupt said he would like to start a HPC National Registry book, to get all the details of the five properties in one book.
- Ken Slaughenhoupt asked if the HPC should seek National designation of the Plain Street District and get a bunch of house set up for grants.
2. **505 CAYUGA ST. HART SIGNS** – Patty Berggren is not here. Ken did meet with her on site and they did make some changes from the original plan. Patty said they are going to do two signs, the triangular sign at the corner of S. 5th and Cayuga and 2 vinyl window signs.
- Ken Slaughenhoupt put forward a motion that the certificate of application for one free stand sign and window cling signs attached to the certificate of appropriateness, that this be approved. This motion was seconded by Jim Fittante.
- Ken Slaughenhoupt and Loretta Frankovitch both agreed the directional sign as first proposed is not to be included.
- Secretary Myers polled the board and the motion was passed with the following votes:
- | | |
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| Rita Geiben | “YES” |
| Susan Hofert | “NO” |

Loretta Frankovitch	“YES”
Ken Slaughenhaupt	“YES”
Jim Fittante	“YES”

3. 418 PLAIN ST. – No Action

4. YEARLY REPORT – Ken Slaughenhaupt said that the HPC is required to give a report in June for the end of the year in a letter format to the Mayor and Board of Trustees, summarizing activities, meetings held and actions taken, and will send a copy of the report to SHPPO.

Ken Slaughenhaupt stated he would like to discuss future plans for the next twelve months starting July 2019 with the board, and was looking for suggestions.

Loretta Frankovitch since we have no ability to match funds, most grants are off limits, but that we could do some work ourselves, which was originally suggested by Jim Fittante.

Ken Slaughenhaupt said he would be giving a report on something they had the opportunity to do with Niagara County with respect to existing designations, and said it is a priority to work with developers of The Frontier House.

Rita Geiben mentioned that Clarence has a wonderful website, and asked if this is something we would do.

Ken Slaughenhaupt said we could have a historic preservation link to the Village website.

Stephanie Myers brought up that Brendan McDermott, head of the recreation department, runs the website and would be able to add this.

NEW BUSINESS

1. GIS WEBSITE – Ken Slaughenhaupt said that the GIS Website is a live intellectual database, I met with Lisa Casey, the manager for Niagara County, and asked about developing a layer for the Lewiston HPC so you would be able to click on properties to activate information and pictures. Ken Slaughenhaupt also stated he would like to work on a word document for information on all properties. This would be a useable tool, particularly for realtors to help with obligations and responsibilities with designated locations.

2. SIGN POLLUTION – Ken Slaughenhaupt addressed Lee Simonson’s report and stated that he felt it is a good idea, and that if this is going to be a historical village, this needs to be intended to and that a plan needs to be created to start minimizing overhead congestion. To my understanding grants are available for things like this. The HPC may want to consider telling the trustees our opinion here and to listen to the board’s opinion on what Lee is suggesting.

Loretta Frankovitch said she is all for it, that the wire pollution should be at the Village Board level, signage is mostly planning and also ties into what we do; that for historical designation, we should have a say to bring some cohesion to the Village.

Peter Coppins said that the same opportunity happened when I lived in Youngstown but the Mayor and Village Board denied the funding, due to

the amount of time Main Street would be shut down. At an opportunity for it, I hope that our Village Board embraces it.

Rita Geiben said that we need to work in conjunction with the Town Board as well, and that the signs will be easier to start working on.

Ken Slaughoupt said that as a HPC Board, we are in favor giving consideration to the points that Lee proposes and creating a plan of action.

OTHER

505 CENTER ST. - Ken Slaughoupt brought up that there has been an issue hovering around about replacing windows at 505 Center Street, Howard Hanna Real Estate. I talked to Mr. Portale about this, and apparently he will be planning on a July 2015 Certificate of Appropriation of approval, approved by a joint board on August 10th, 2015. They want to use vinyl on the second and third floor windows, the same as the first floor windows that have been replaced, due to being easier to maintain.

Jim Fittante said that a building with all vinyl windows should not be on a national registry, that they would receive no type of funding or tax credits; it goes against the handbook for historical preservation.

Ken Slaughoupt said that the first and second floors have already been replaced with vinyl, the question is do we bring this to head to decide on whether or not we request to remove this from the historical designation, and that I would feel uncomfortable doing that without talking to Mr. Portale.

Rita Geiben asked if this was approved four years ago, why is it here now, do they last forever.

Ken Slaughoupt said yes, it is either appropriate or not appropriate. I will be working on a complicated letter, and sending a draft to you all for consideration.

Jim Fittante said that we are getting overruled left and right, so I feel like why are we here?

Ken Slaughoupt stated that he is concerned because the HPC has never been invited or consulted to discuss the plans for The Frontier House, and that even though there are no hard plans, I would think they would want to work hand in hand with the HPC, but it doesn't seem to be that way.

Rita Geiben said that she feels Jim Fittante is right, and that we need to take a stand, otherwise what are we doing here.

Jim Fittante complimented Ken Slaughoupt's presentation on The Frontier House at the Lewiston Library.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Loretta Frankovitch and seconded by Jim Fittante. It passed unanimously and the meeting was called to a close at 7:15PM