

**Minutes**  
**Farmington Hills Historic District Commission**  
**City of Farmington Hills**  
**January 10, 2024 @ 6:30 p.m.**  
**Farmington Hills City Hall – Community Room**  
**31555 W. Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills MI 48336**  
**Website: [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com) : Phone (248)871-2540**

1. Meeting called to order by Chair Tulas at 6:32 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Jim Paulson, Alec Thomson, John Trafelet, Marleen Tulas, Steve Olson, Ken Klemmer

Members Absent: None

Others Present: None

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Steve Olson to approve agenda with updated items, support by John Trafelet.  
Motion carried unanimously.

4. New Business

**A. Certificate of Appropriateness 24-1**

Historic District: HD#514—James F. Cain House  
Location: 26135 Holly Hill Drive  
Applicant: Alec Thomson  
Owner: Alec Thomson  
Proposal: Replacing the existing broken garage door with a 16'x6.5'  
Standard White garage door.

Motion by Ken Klemmer to approve the COA and cite Department of Interior Standards #9 and #2, Second by Trafelet.  
Motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Thomson abstained.

5. Old Business

A. Blue Book reviews

The commission reviewed Duncan Thomson's proposed edits of the Blue Book. Some updates were accepted, new suggestions were put forth, and areas needing additional research were identified. Alec Thomson will make proposed revisions and share the document for further consideration at the next HDC meeting.

#### B. Nehemiah Hoyt House (36668 Howard)

Steve Olson reported that he spoke with the city regarding the property and that the city has been active in pursuing the owners of the property to remedy the defects. Steve reported that efforts to tarp (enclose/secure the property) is reminiscent of the efforts in previous years to preserve the Burrowes home.

Motion by Steve Olson to have Steve Olson and Marleen Tulas draft a letter asking the city to secure the property and provide access. Additionally, Steve and Marleen will seek a meeting with city officials Amanda and Dennis to discuss the status of the property. Second by Klemmer.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### C. Sarah Fisher Home

John Trafelet reported that the delay in the progress for the proposed development project at the property rests in the fact that the current sewer system structure lacks the necessary capacity to handle the proposed development.

It was suggested that this topic, along with Hoyt House, be added to the HDC annual report as a section labelled as challenges.

Steve Olson will meet with Erik Perdonik to inquire about the costs associated with the needed sewer upgrades at the Sarah Fisher site.

### 6. Points of Interest/Updates

#### A. 2023 Historic District Commission Annual Report Update

1. Halsted Apple Barn - Dog Kennel installation
2. Longacre House – New lights proposals and wall repair
3. Lemuel Botsford House – Chain-link fence and glass block windows
4. Botsford Inn – Repair work complete
5. Cemetery restoration work at West and Utley
6. Mid Century Modern (Holly Hill Farms) – Survey work
7. Nehemiah Hoyt House – Move to preserve the structure

#### B. 2024 Goals and Objectives

1. Spicer House Preservation Plan
2. Continue Blue book edits
3. Host a preservation workshop for public
4. Identify properties within city for possible inclusion in Historic District
5. Move Sarah Fisher development forward

### C. Cemetery Updates

Steve Olson reported that the material for the annual report has been prepared. We are awaiting a response from David Carter to place bids for more cemetery repair.

John Trafelet reported that the brick wall at 12 and Halstead needs to be tuck-pointed and the shed needs a new roof. John is going to talk with the DPW about these repairs.

### 7. Correspondence

None received.

### 8. Public Comment

None

#### 1. Commissioner Comments

John Trafelet reported that he spoke with the mayor regarding Emily Howard's application. The application is missing and the city is looking into the problem.

#### 2. Approval of Minutes – **December 13, 2023**

Motion to approve minutes made by Ken Klemmer, supported by Steve Olson.  
Motion carried unanimously.

### 11. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by John Trafelet, supported by Alec Thomson.  
Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment at 9:00 pm