

MEETING MINUTES FINAL
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
May 13, 2026 @ 6:30 P.M.
FARMINGTON HILLS CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
31555 W. ELEVEN MILE ROAD, FARMINGTON HILLS, MICHIGAN 48336
www.fhgov.com

1. Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm
2. Roll Call
 - Members Present: Jim Paulson, John Trafelet, Marleen Tulas, Steve Olson, Ken Klemmer, Emily Howard
 - Members Absent: Alec Thomson
 - Others Present: Kirsten Mellem (HDC Staff Liaison, Planning & Community Development)
3. Approval of Agenda
 - Motion to approve the agenda by Trafelet, supported by Tulas.
 - Motion carried 6-0.
4. Unfinished Business
 - None
5. New Business
 - A. Election of Officers
 - Motion to elect Thomson as Chair, Klemmer as Vice-Chair, and Olson as Secretary by Trafelet, supported by Howard.
 - Motion carried 6-0.
6. **Committees**
 - None
7. **Points of Interest/Updates**
 - A. Heritage Oaks Building and Facility Assessment
 - Councilperson Knol gave an update on the current status of the negotiations with Oakland County Parks. The County is hesitant about taking over the historic structures due to the cost to upgrade structures for ADA compliance and the perceived difficulties of having to go in front of an HDC for approval of changes to the buildings.
 - Discussion – whether or not the assessment is true to the current conditions of the historic properties, and if the cost estimates are accurate or inflated
 - Action – walk through and look at the items identified in the report
 - i. Review interiors/exterior of Stables, Spicer, Heritage House, Barn
 - ii. Review the assessment and compare it to what we see, and write a summary report of our findings
 - iii. Special Meeting of the Commission scheduled: May 26, 9 am, meet at Spicer House
 - B. Semi-quincentennial Events
 - June 25th fireworks – is there an opportunity for HDC to have a table
 - i. Different ideas for engagement were discussed; Howard to coordinate with HC
 - July 8th 6 pm reading of declaration at North Farmington Cemetery
 - C. Public Engagement Events
 - Artifact Night as part of Heritage Days, Sept. 18th
 - Potential SHPO workshops for HDC homeowners and the community
 - Annual Open House - Potential tour of Drake House (28804 Drake), Olson to contact him
 - D. Blue Book Updates
 - Thomson was working on updates; Mellem to reach out and check on status
8. **Correspondence**
 - A. NEPA Review for 22710 Haggerty Rd – Small Cell
 - No issues
9. **Public Comment**

None

10. Commissioner Comments

- A. Marleen – MHPN 26-27 resource directory is available online, requesting a hard copy
- B. Steve – Cemetery restoration held to spring work days with the scouts that went very well. New contract with Carter’s – waiting on quotes on specific markers from them. John to call him to encourage coordination with Steve. Utley 3/4rds done and warranty work on one of the headstones. Will be scheduling work days for the Fall.

11. Staff Comments

- A. Minor Classes of Work Update
 - i. CA 26-1A – 30500 Thirteen Mile Rd. – Glen Oaks Golf Course HVAC Replacement
 - ii. CA 26-2A – 31110 Eleven Mile Rd. – Royal Aldrich House Roof Replacement
 - iii. CA 26-3A – 36668 Howard – Hoyt House New A/C Unit
- B. Project Updates
 - i. Sarah Fisher – Pebble Creek Development – Demo of Buildings Started
 - ii. Hoyt House – Under construction
 - iii. Halsted Road – Planned Road Work 12 Mile to 14 Mile
 - iv. Historic Markers – Aldrich House, Gates House, Palmer Sherman
- C. Other
 - i. Halsted Apple Barn Stone Wall Damage
 - a. Wait until after the road work is complete to speak with the homeowner about the damage
 - ii. New GIS aerial photography from 1949 in the Map Gallery “Historical Aerial Photo Viewer.”
 - iii. Eagle Scout Service Project – for historical marker at Drake and Howard Rds.
 - a. Motion to support the restoration of the historic marker owned by the City by Olson. Second by Trafelet. Motion carried 6-0.

12. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting – January 14, 2026

- A. Insert “still” for motion in the last sentence of the first page
- B. Insert “none” under old business
- C. Update name spelling “Mellem” under CLG report
- D. Motion to accept minutes with corrections by Tulas. Supported by Trafelet. Motion carried 6-0.

13. Meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Drafted by Kirsten Mellem (Alec Thomson was absent)