



# Royal Oak

## Agenda

### Royal Oak Historic District Study Committee Meeting

Wednesday, November 20, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

City Hall Conference Room 116

203 South Troy Street

Royal Oak, MI 48067

Anyone planning to attend the meeting who has need of special assistance under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is asked to contact the city clerk's office at 248-246-3050 at least two (2) business days prior to the meeting.

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1.	Call to Order	
2.	Roll Call	
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5.	Historic Context Report MS Teams Meeting with John Schuttler of Chronicle Heritage	
6.	Public Comment	
7.	Historic Preservation Observations in Royal Oak	
	a.    Endangered	
	b.    Lost	
8.	Unfinished Business	
	a.    Potential New Work	
	a.    Hartle Property 203 Sunnybrook	
	Determine criteria; review all information collected to date; create list based on the "manual".	
	b.    WPA Murals at Dondero Patrick Andras	
	c.    Future Study Ideas	
	Refer to Historic Context Report draft for direction.	
	b.    Marketing Preservation	

- a. City Website Updates, Corrections, and Additions
- b. HDSC Member Google Drive - Access Updates

9. New Business
10. Committee Member Comments
  - a. Historic District Commission
  - b. Historical Commission
11. Adjournment



# Royal Oak

Minutes

## Royal Oak Historic District Study Committee Meeting

October 17, 2024, 7:00 p.m.  
City Hall Conference Room 116  
203 South Troy Street  
Royal Oak, MI 48067

Present: Chairperson Tammis Donaldson  
Patrick Andras  
Chris Kraska  
Jeffrey Ridley  
Eric Romain  
Leslie Snow  
Leo Derdelakos

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### 1. Call to Order

Chairperson Tammis Donaldson called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

### 2. Historic Context Report Update

John Schuttler from Chronicle Heritage gave monthly update as he committed to at the September 25 meeting. Mr. Schuttler appeared via Microsoft Teams and members of the historic district commission also attended to hear the update. He is pleased with the progress and will continue to keep the historic district study committee updated at November and December meetings.

### 3. Houses Turning 100 Historical Society Event

Judy Davids from the Royal Oak Historical Society presented a program the ROHS will be conducting about houses in Royal Oak that will celebrate 100 years. She is seeking to invite the historic district commission and historic district study committee to collaborate with the ROHS on this project. Note: She will also present to the historical commission at their meeting on October 23.

She said in January letters will go out to owners of all homes turning 100 in 2025; and anticipates an event to take place late-June at the historical museum. She is seeking ideas and help from both the HDC and HDSC ie could we provide certificates or signs for the home-owners, possible develop walking maps of homes owners approve to be included, fundraising events leading up to the event. Members agreed they would love to be involved and will continue to

discuss and investigate ways to help. HDSC said they would come up with a guide to resources for home-owners to do self-studies of their properties.

**4. Roll Call**

**5. Approval of Agenda**

Moved by: Leo Derdelakos  
Seconded by: Chris Kraska

Motion to approve agenda as presented was adopted.

Motion Adopted

**6. Approval of Minutes June 20 2024 Meeting**

Moved by: Jeffrey Ridley  
Seconded by: Eric Romain

Motion to approve the June 20 2024 historic district study committee meeting minutes as presented was adopted.

**7. Approval of Minutes September 17 2024 Meeting**

Moved by: Eric Romain  
Seconded by: Leo Derdelakos

Motion to approve the September 17 2024 historic district study committee meeting minutes as presented was adopted.

**8. Public Comment**

Annette (last name) asked if the property at 1905 13 Mile Road could be designated historic. She is not the property-owner but has watched the home for a while and was able to stop by when there was an estate sale. The home-owner has now passed away and home will be going through probate court with multiple members of the family owning together. The process for designating was explained to her and while the home may have potential for designation without the owners identities to request permission to study it would not be feasible. The members discussed and will attempt to do some more research. She also inquired whether the city could purchase the property to develop as a tourist attraction. Staff liaison Schwanger explained this also did not seem like a feasible idea as the city would want to show a strong public interest and benefit before committing funds.

**9. Historic Preservation Observations in Royal Oak**

**9.a Endangered**

Eric Romain reviewed the following properties that are endangered: 713 W Farnum b.1924; Starr Presbyterian Church. He also reported success with 314 S Laurel being saved and receiving a reconstruction of the front

porch and the home at 1123 N Pleasant which was updated with paint colors chosen from a period-color pallet.

Chris Kraska informed the members he has spoken to the owner of 1718 12 Mile Road. It has been sold to a developer and will be demolished, but the owner has agreed to allowing the HDSC members to do a last walk through to take pictures and measurements and document the resource.

1905 13 Mile Road - see above.

### **9.b Lost**

Eric Romain reviewed the following properties: 517 DeVillen b.1917; 2303 Ferncliff b.1927; 3328 Starr b.1950; 3503 Woodland b.1949; 3815 Kent b.1950. These homes have either already been or are slated for demolished.

## **10. Unfinished Business**

### **10.a Marketing**

Moved by: Chris Kraska

Seconded by: Leslie Snow

Motion to table this item until the November meeting was adopted.

Motion Adopted

10.a.1 Website Updates

10.a.2 Google Drive

10.a.3 Clio Software and Royal Oak Minute

### **10.b Potential New Work**

10.b.1 WPA Murals at Dondero Middle School

Patrick Andras reported he is talking to the school district superintendent MaryBeth Fitzpatrick about setting a meeting. He will keep members updated.

10.b.2 Hartle Property on Sunnybrook

Members will tour the home on October 29 at 6:00pm. The focus needs to be how to tie the home to a person or a trend of historical import in the City.

10.b.3 Frederick Madison (architect) House

No progress on this property.

#### 10.b.4 New Candidates from Historic Context Study

Members decided to not look for new candidates but to concentrate on the Hartle Home at 203 Sunnybrook.

#### 10.c Ordinance and Bylaws

Moved by: Jeffrey Ridley  
Seconded by: Eric Romain

Motion to table this item was approved.

Motion Adopted

### 11. New Business

All new business before the committee has been covered in public comment and historic preservation observations of endangered or lost properties.

### 12. Committee Member Comments

#### 12.a Historic Group Reports

##### 12.a.1 Vinsetta Bridges Task Force

The task force is scheduled to meet October 24. The focus currently is the stabilization of the Mayfield Bridge before the winter season begins.

##### 12.a.2 Historical Commission

Ghost tours continue; the October Open House will be Sunday, October 27th.

##### 12.a.3 Historic District Commission

Just approved signs at the Hilzinger Block Historic District, two were just to replace panels in existing signs. A new one will be installed with no drilling in the brick of the front facade.

### 13. Adjournment

Moved by: Eric Romain  
Seconded by: Leo Derdelakos

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:11pm was approved.

Motion Adopted