



Royal Oak

Minutes

Royal Oak Historical Commission Meeting

February 28, 2024, 7:00 p.m.
Orson Starr House Museum
3123 North Main Street
Royal Oak, MI 48067

Present: Patrick Andras
Alex Kerrigan
Kathy Putnam
Nancy Robinson
Richard Karlowski
Katie McEachren
Isaac Wolf

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Alexandra Kerrigan at 7:01pm.

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Patrick Andras
Seconded by: Isaac Wolf

Motion to approve February 28, 2024 meeting agenda.

Motion Adopted

4. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

5. Approval of Minutes

Moved by: Richard Karlowski
Seconded by: Nancy Robinson

Motion to approve January 24, 2024 meeting minutes.

Motion Adopted

6. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Rick Karlowski reported the current balance is \$4425.64.

No expenditures were presented for approval.

7. Historic and Community Group Reports

7.a Interclub

No updates.

7.b Historic District Study Committee

Patrick Andras reported the ordinance to establish the Vinsetta Bridges Historic District will have first reading before the city commission at their meeting on Thursday February 29 2024. The HDSC is currently looking for additional properties for study.

7.c Orson Starr House Open House

There will be no open house in February.

8. New Business

8.a March Open House

March Open House will be held on Sunday, March 10, 2024 from 1:00 to 4:00p.m.

8.b Civil War Day

Civil War Day will be Saturday May 18, 2024 from 10:00a.m. to 4:00p.m. Rick Karlowski reported he is working to confirm the list of re-enactors and reserve the cannon (possibly two cannons this year).

8.c Memorial Day

Chair Kerrigan has registered the Historical Commission to march in the Royal Oak Memorial Day Parade. All members and their families are invited to participate.

8.d Michigan Historic Preservation Network Annual Conference 2024

Carol Schwanger, staff liaison, announced the MHPN annual conference is to be held May 9 to 11 in Kalamazoo. Any members who would like to attend should let Carol know.

9. Unfinished Business

9.a Merger with Royal Oak Historical Society

Staff liaison Schwanger requested three members of the Historical Commission volunteer to meet with three members of the Royal Oak Historical Society and assistant to the city manager, Susan Barkman, to

discuss the potential merger of the two groups. Chair Alexandra Kerrigan, Treasurer Rick Karlowski, and Secretary Patrick Andras volunteered to represent the HC.

9.b Inventory

Chair Kerrigan has been researching inventory apps and software. Staff liaison Schwanger will reach out to the State Historic Preservation Office for referrals to resources.

9.c Maintenance

9.c.1 Painting

Chair Kerrigan is contacting the department of public services about painting the house this spring.

9.c.2 Cleaning

9.c.3 Landscaping

9.d Flyer Paranormal Ghost Tours at the Orson Starr House Museum

Chair Kerrigan reported the contract from the 2023 season has expired and will need to be renewed. Staff liaison Schwanger said she will be drafting the 2024 contract for the city attorney to review to be able to present to the city commission at one of their March meetings. She asked if there were any amendments suggested by members. Rates were discussed.

Moved by: Kathy Putnam

Seconded by: Richard Karlowski

Motion to raise the individual rate to \$50 per person and the group rate to \$300 per group.

Motion Adopted

9.e Side Porch Project

Patrick Andras will request the Historic District Commission review at their April 18, 2024 meeting.

10. Adjournment

Moved by: Patrick Andras

Seconded by: Isaac Wolf

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10p.m.

Motion Adopted