



Rochester Hills

Minutes

Historic Districts Study Committee

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Chairperson Jason Thompson, Vice Chairperson Dr. Richard Stamps
Members: Suzanne Carlson, James Hannick, Sue Thomasson,
LaVere Webster, Murray Woolf

Thursday, February 10, 2011

5:30 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Thompson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present 6 - Richard Stamps, Jason Thompson, LaVere Webster, James Hannick, Sue Thomasson and Suzanne Carlson

Absent 1 - Murray Woolf

Also Present: Derek Delacourt, Deputy Director, Planning
Sandi DiSipio, Recording Secretary

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2010-0539 November 11, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Stamps, seconded by Hannick, that this matter be Approved as Presented. The motion carried by the following vote.

Aye 6 - Stamps, Thompson, Webster, Hannick, Thomasson and Carlson

Absent 1 - Woolf

2011-0055 December 9, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Stamps, seconded by Hannick, that this matter be Approved as Presented. The motion carried by the following vote.

Aye 6 - Stamps, Thompson, Webster, Hannick, Thomasson and Carlson

Absent 1 - Woolf

COMMUNICATIONS

No formal communications were brought forward. Chairperson Thompson announced that he must resign from the Study Committee, so tonight is his last meeting of this Board. He explained his work schedule has changed and can't be here at 5:30 p.m. on Thursdays anymore. He will continue to serve on the HDC. He expressed his appreciation and thanks to all the members for their support over the years. Chair Thompson explained this is not something he took lightly or wanted to do, but it is not feasible to do otherwise at this point.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public came forward to speak on non-agenda items.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2011-0056 Final Report Recommendation to City Council - Discussion to determine members available to attend meeting and make the presentations

1. 2040 S. Livernois Road - Final Report
2. 3976 S. Livernois Road (Stiles School) - Final Report

Chairperson Thompson indicated the Committee needs to discuss how these two final reports will be presented to City Council - if any members want to make a presentation or be present with staff the night of the meeting. He opened the floor for any questions or comments.

Mr. Delacourt stated that in order to meet the timeframes identified in the ordinance, the reports should go to Council February 28th or the meeting following that at the very latest. The ordinance requires the reports to be forwarded to Council within a year of the public hearing, which was held last February. This does not mean Council needs to take action that night. Mr. Delacourt asked how the board wants the reports presented - is there someone from the Committee who would like to participate in the presentation? Staff would be glad to forward the information to Council and answer any questions, but staff does not act as an advocate either way. Mr. Delacourt explained he could send the reports to Council with a cover letter indicating they are being forwarded in accordance with the timeframes outlined in the ordinance - unfortunately, none of the Study Committee members are available to make a presentation that night and request that the presentation be put off until a later date. Mr. Delacourt will check with the City Attorney to assure this meets the intent of the ordinance.

Dr. Stamps feels that somebody should be present at the Council meeting to answer any questions, but he can't be there on February 28th. He could be in attendance on March 7th. and invited other members to be present. Mr. Delacourt added that staff could also sit at the presenter's table with the Study Committee if desired. Ms. Thomasson can attend the March meeting, not as part of a presentation, but for support. Mr. Hannick is unable to attend. Mr. Delacourt added that Ms. Kidorf, the City's Consultant, could be asked to attend if the Committee wishes.

Mr. Delacourt reminded the Study Committee that these reports were one of the last few completed under the previous ordinance process, thereby not requiring

a motion from Council to initiate the study. He expects Council to have questions about how the reports ended up in front of them without their initial direction.

It is the consensus of the Committee to forward the two final reports to City Council for the February 28th meeting, but ask that the matter be postponed until representatives of the Study Committee can be in attendance. If the City Attorney feels action must be taken by Council on the night of February 28th in order to meet the ordinance requirements, then Mr. Delacourt will attend and ask that Ms. Kidorf be present in order to present the reports on the Study Committee's behalf.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was brought forth for discussion.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Reviewing the boundaries of the two contiguous districts as suggested in the 2002 survey, and the cost estimate to do this, should be placed on the next agenda for discussion.

The Study Committee expressed disappointment that Chairperson Thompson has to resign from Board due to work conflicts, and suggested the meetings be held on another evening or at a different time to accommodate his schedule. Staff will poll the Committee to see if an alternate night or time can be worked out. Because of this possibility, election of officers is suggested to be delayed until the next meeting.

MOTION by Webster, seconded by Hannick, that the Committee waives the Historic Districts Study Committee bylaws and postpone the election of officers to the second meeting regular of the year.

Ayes: All Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

As Mr. Dziurman was not reappointed to the Study Committee, Mr. Delacourt stated for the record that as staff he'd like to recognize and thank John for all the help and time he gave to this committee, and Mr. Delacourt personally, over the years. And in case this is Mr. Thompson's last meeting with the Study Committee, Mr. Delacourt thanked Jason for his help and contributions to this Board. Jason sat as Chair in a time when the Committee transitioned from a very informal to a much more formal and active Study Committee within the City. Staff extends recognition and thanks to both these individuals. It was suggested that a letter be sent from the Committee to John thanking him for his years of service, the sharing of his knowledge and expertise, and his commitment to the preservation effort.

NEXT MEETING DATE

March 10, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business, the Chair adjourned the Regular Meeting at 6:18 p.m.

Jason Thompson, Chairperson
Historic Districts Study Committee
City of Rochester Hills

Sandi DiSipio, Recording Secretary