HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes
July 13, 2009

CALL TO ORDER:
Kurt Thornton, Vice-Chairperson called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL:
Members Present: Heather Lane-Fowler, Laurie Sullivan, Glen Harris, Kurt Thornton, Susan Baldwin (Commission Liaison)

Staff Present: Eileen Wicklund, City Attorney; Glenn Perian, Senior Planner; Leona Parrish, Admin. Assistant

ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO AGENDA: None

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

MOTION WAS MADE BY MS. LAURIE SULLIVAN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM JUNE 8, 2009 MEETING AS SUBMITTED; SECONDED BY MS. HEATHER LANE-FOWLER, ALL IN FAVOR MINUTES APPROVED.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MS. LAURIE SULLIVAN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM JUNE 18, 2009 WORKSHOP MEETING AS SUBMITTED; SECONDED BY MS. HEATHER LANE-FOWLER, ALL IN FAVOR MINUTES APPROVED.

CORRESPONDENCE: It was noted correspondence was received from Ms. Kathleen Eriksen, regarding her resignation from the Historic District Commission.

OLD BUSINESS:
Eileen Wicklund, City Attorney discussed the definitions of demo by neglect and said the HDC would decide if a property meets demo by neglect. She noted there was a special assessment process for properties facing demolition. Ms. Wicklund quoted Mr. Perian's notation regarding Chapter 1470.01(h).

NEW BUSINESS:
21 W. Michigan Avenue
Mr. Glenn Perian read the report stating this was an application from Maryann Vassallo from Barista Blues Café seeking an application for determination of appropriateness to install a front awning, paint, and repair of some glass for property located at 21 W. Michigan Avenue. Stated Ms. Vassallo has the

building owner (Heritage Tower) permission to make the application. Mr. Perian noted there was an error in the report stating it was noted as being the Old Adventist District; should have been Central Business District.

Ms. Vassallo stated she had included a green (spruce) fabric sample of the awning which will have a 6-8 inch valance with a 30" drop for 30" of protection and will be 20 ft. long. Stated the application has a photo of what the awning would look like. She noted there would be a separate fabric piece that would have Barista Blues Café written and will be removable on the awning if they needed to relocate.

Mr. Glen Harris asked if the awning would cover area where the store was recessed. Ms. Vassallo stated the recess is 2 ft. back and the awning would cover the recess and whole portion of glass area.

> **MOTION: MADE BY MS. HEATHER LANE-FOWNER TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR A NEW AWNING AS IT MEETS THE CRITERIA FOR THE MICHIGAN LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICTS ACT, AS AMENDED AND ALSO FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 21W. MICHIGAN AVENUE AS SUBMITTED; SUPPORTED BY MS. LAURIE SULLIVAN.**
>
> **ALL IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED MOTION PASSED TO APPROVE.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS AND STAFF:

Ms. Eileen Wicklund answered questions from Laurie Sullivan regarding the workshop held June 18, 2009; stated the questions regarding Mr. Ken Tsuchiyama statements would need to be answered by him regarding the HDC and the City workings together; city staff or herself would find out the answers and provide to the HDC.

Ms. Wicklund stated that it appears Ms. Sullivan questions are basically regarding the "Shall's" and "May's". Ms. Sullivan asked if there can be another workshop at the September HDC meeting. Ms. Wicklund stated she would explain the HDC authorities and duties at the September meeting.

Mr. Kurt Thornton referenced and made a statement regarding Chapter 1470.02(a)(f); and 1470.03 Sec (d) Part(2)(i) & Part (2)(j) regarding public comments. Stating he believes those sections of the city ordinance may give the HDC the mandate to speak publicly about preserving local historic sites and resources. Said he understands that as an HDC member he will not publically state how he will vote on a permit being brought before the commission; but until his term of service expires or he is removed from the HDC, he will privately and publically voice his views on local history and local historic preservation.

Ms. Wicklund stated that being a Historic District Commission member, if the HDC want their decisions to be valid and not appealed they should refrain from discussion as they would be voting and acting as a judge and should not pre-judge. Noted not every structure has historic value or is contributing.

Mr. Glen Harris noted that even though it is a Historic District building, can it still can be demolished. Yes, that was correct.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Ms. Laurie Sullivan to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Mr. Heather Lane-Fowler; all in favor none opposed. Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Leona A. Parrish, Administrative Assistant, Planning Department