

**CITY OF CLEVELAND HEIGHTS  
LANDMARK COMMISSION**

40 Severance Circle  
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118

Minutes for the special meeting of  
July 25, 2019

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At 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019, a special meeting of the Landmark Commission was held in the Executive Conference Room, Cleveland Heights City Hall at 40 Severance Circle.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mazie Adams  
Jim Edmonson  
Tom Veider  
Ken Goldberg  
Marjorie Kitchell

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Margaret Lann  
Mark Souther

**STAFF PRESENT**

Kara Hamley O'Donnell, City Planner II/Historic Preservation Planner

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30p.m.

**STAFF REPORT**

No staff report.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- Ms. Adams made opening remarks; In summary, that the meeting was called to address the historic district designation of Ambler Heights/Chestnut Hills, initiated at the June 5, 2019, meeting; The City received negative responses from 51% homeowners, thus the historic district process cannot move forward. Ms. Adams then went over purposes of Landmark Commission, and their reasons for reacting quickly in this process due to their charge to preserve local historic resources. She reiterated the Commission's reception and recognition of public comment and concerns from the previous July 2, 2019, meeting via a draft of the minutes, and summarized some of these concerns. Ms. Adams asked for an email from Barbara Hawley to be entered into the public record. She then opened the floor for public comment.
- Barbara French, 2235 Harcourt Drive: My position falls in the middle of the extremes. I value the historic nature of the Ambler Heights neighborhood, and would like to preserve it. However, there are some houses that are not viable to be turned around and maintained, such as the one demolished to build the Nissen-Butler house. I would prefer to save them, but if someone is willing to put in a million-dollar modern house that doesn't clash with the neighborhood, as opposed to keeping a \$300,000 house that's not sellable [2200 Devonshire Drive]. It is sad to tear down another historic house, but I am not disappointed by the quality and nature of what is intended for the space.

- Ken Methven, 2207 Devonshire Drive: I live directly across street from the Butler house, and diagonally across the street from house that is to be torn down. Tearing down the house will pollute the atmosphere and exacerbate my health issues.
- Ms. Adams made a motion to stop the process of designating Ambler Heights/Chestnut Hills as a Cleveland Heights Local Historic District, begun on June 5<sup>th</sup> 2019, and to stop the related permit referral process within the proposed district boundaries.
- Motion seconded by Ms. Kitchell.
- Motion passed, 5-0.
- Ms. Adams made a motion to implement a 90-day moratorium on the permit referral aspect of the process of designating a local landmark. Any questions about this?
- Unidentified man: Can you explain that?
- Ms. Adams: It is unrelated to anything having to do with Ambler Heights, but we are putting a moratorium on ourselves for the permit referral aspect of the designation process for local historic districts. If another neighborhood came to us tomorrow and said they wanted to start the process, we could start that process, but we are not including the permit referral aspect of the process for 90 days. There is no change to the legislation. As I discussed earlier in my opening remarks, we are committed to reviewing all of the legislation language and the procedures and policies around it in the coming months.
- Motion seconded by Ms. Kitchell.
- Motion passed, 5-0.

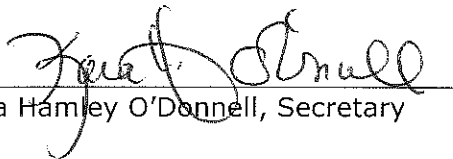
**NEW BUSINESS**

No new business.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Commission adjourned their meeting at 5:50p.m. The next regular meeting date will be Wednesday, September 4, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. in the Executive Conference Room at City Hall, 40 Severance Circle. [Meeting time and location may be subject to change due to Architectural Board of Review agenda.]

Respectfully submitted,

  
Kara Hamley O'Donnell, Secretary

Approved,

  
Mazie Adams, Chair

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