

**CITY OF CLEVELAND HEIGHTS
LANDMARK COMMISSION**

40 Severance Circle
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118

Minutes for the regular meeting of
January 3, 2018

At 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 3, 2018 a regular meeting of the Landmark Commission was held in Council Chambers of City Hall, 40 Severance Circle.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mazie Adams
Jim Edmonson
Ken Goldberg
Margaret Lann
Mark Souther (arrived at 6:02)
Tom Veider

MEMBERS ABSENT

Marjorie Kitchell

STAFF PRESENT

Kara Hamley O'Donnell, Historic Preservation Planner

COUNCIL PRESENT

OTHERS PRESENT

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:42 p.m.

ELECTION OF CHAIR

Mr. Edmonson made a motion to reelect Mazie Adams as Chair of the Landmark Commission. Seconded by Ms. Lann, the motion passed 5-0.

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 9, 2017 MEETINGS OF THE LANDMARK COMMISSION

Mr. Goldberg made several corrections which were accepted. With Mr. Goldberg's corrections, Ms. Lann made a motion to approve, Mr. Edmonson seconded, and it passed 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

3402 Ormond, Lanphear Callender Sears House

- Mr. Veider asked if the homeowner got a permit for the sunroom and Ms. Hamley O'Donnell was unsure.
- Ms. Hamley O'Donnell said she met with the owner and explained that, while the addition was mostly completed, the attached screened porch had not been approved by the Landmark Commission and cannot be constructed without their approval. The homeowner plans to construct this himself and Ms. Hamley O'Donnell noted that his drawings lacked details.
- Mr. Veider noted that the drawings are not sufficient.
- Ms. Hamley O'Donnell will update the Commission at the next meeting.

Preservation Month

- Ms. Adams shared the planned tours and lectures and noted it would be helpful if members of the Landmark Commission could be present to assist on some of the tours.

2018 Preservation Month:

Cleveland Heights' "Emerald Necklace": Parks, Property, and Politics

Tuesday, May 1, 7 p.m.

Speaker: Marian Morton

From the Shakers to Shaker Heights Park: The Curious History of Why a Part of Cleveland Heights Once Called Itself 'The Real Shaker Heights'

Wednesday, May 9, 7pm

Speaker: Virginia Dawson

Cleveland Heights Rocks and Waters Tour 2018: Shaw Brook gulch

Saturday, May 12, 10 a.m. - noon, rain or shine

Tour guides: Roy Larick, Korbi Roberts and Kara Hamley O'Donnell

Why Preservation?

Monday, May 21, 7pm

Speaker: Margaret Lann, Cleveland Restoration Society

Cain Park Behind the Scenes tour

Saturday, June 2, 10 a.m. - noon, rain or shine

Tour guides: Kara Hamley O'Donnell and Ksenia Roshchakovsky, City of Cleveland Heights staff

Forest Hill Park Plaque

- Ms. Hamley O'Donnell said that she and Ms. Adams had been tweaking the language for the Ohio Historic Plaque for Forest Hill Park. Ms. Hamley O'Donnell had applied for and received a grant to fund the plaque in the park.
- The plaque's location was discussed and thought it would be best to place it in the area near the ballparks and playground where it is busiest and most likely to be seen.
- Mr. Veider had been learning about John D. Rockefeller, Sr.'s house and John Jr. mentioned the importance of this Forest Hill land and how it influenced his love of parks and funding of national parks, such as Acadia.
- Ms. Hamley O'Donnell felt that, perhaps if we become a CLG, we could apply for a grant for informational signs pointing to the various areas of interest in this large park.
- Mr. Souther thought it would be interesting to have a sign that marked the footprint of the original homestead.
- Mr. Veider noted that there had been an urban archeology project at the site of the homestead.
- Mr. Souther noted that in Philadelphia, near Independence Hall, Franklin's home location is marked by a grouping of simple piers--they have plaques in the grass that show you what business was along that stretch.
- Ms. Hamley O'Donnell will share the plaque text with Commission.

CLG/Landmark Ordinance

- Ms. Hamley O'Donnell noted a suggested amendment to the recent ordinance Landmark Commission reviewed. She had discussed it with Ms. Adams.

- Ms. Adams explained that in the Shaker Heights ordinance, there is the ability to Landmark a property over owner objection in order to negotiate time for an endangered building's possible restoration. In the Shaker Heights model, City Council approves it and Landmark Commission can request it. This gives all parties up to a year to pause and see if other alternatives are available.
- Ms. Lann noted this would typically be used in an emergency situation.
- Mr. Veider noted that the Taylor Tudor Building is going to the land bank. It may be good to landmark this and this could be helpful to stop demolition.
- Ms. Adams explained the steps and said that Council would have more control over designation. Currently Council is not involved.
- Mr. Veider felt we should use the inventory we are creating and note buildings that we should review for demolition.
- Ms. Adams said it was exciting that we are moving forward.
- Ms. Lann said that Cleveland Restoration Society takes things and stabilizes them and sells them. This has recently been done in Shaker Heights. CRS is expanding their real estate development programs.
- It was also discussed that if we become a Certified Local Government, local landmarks are eligible for tax credits.

Park Synagogue

- Ms. Hamley O'Donnell reported that the Mayfield Road piers will likely be demolished [update: They were demolished February 2018]. Mr. Goldberg thought Cleveland Restoration Society might be of help in guiding the congregation.
- Ms. Lann says National Trust has religious building assistance program for historic religious buildings. It originally was only for Christian buildings but has been recently opened for all denominations.
- Mr. Goldberg noted that architect Erich Mendelsohn also designed three other synagogues outside of Cleveland that were constructed.

Christ Our Redeemer A.M.E. Church

- Ms. Hamley O'Donnell will follow up with CRS regarding the now vacant building which has a lien on it.
- Mr. Souther said the last congregation started there in 1981.

NEW BUSINESS

No reports

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Commission adjourned their meeting at 6:55 p.m. The next regular meeting date will be Tuesday, March 6, 2018, 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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