

Meeting of the
City of Charlevoix
Historic District Commission
Friday, April 26, 2019
Minutes

Vicki Voisin, Chair of the Historic District Commission, called the meeting to order at 11:05 am.

1) Roll Call

Present: Mary Adams, John Campbell, Kay Heise, David Miles, Vicki Voisin, Paul Weston

Representing the City of Charlevoix: Lindsey Dotson, Executive Director, Downtown Development Authority (DDA)

Absent: Hans Wiemer

2) Approval of Agenda: A quorum was present, and the amended agenda was unanimously approved.

Motion made by Paul Weston and supported by David Miles.

3) Inquiry Regarding Conflicts of Interest: none

4) Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the January 25, 2019 meeting were unanimously approved. Motion made by David Miles and supported by Mary Adams.

5) Old Business

a. CLG (Certified Local Government) Application Status

Dotson reported that a few items still remain to complete the application, including a listing of the current achievable, measurable goals that are related to the identification, evaluation, registration, and protection of the City's historic and architectural resources. Five goals were then identified:

1. Nominate the 200 block of downtown for the National Register - 2019/2020
2. Install signage in the Earl Young Historic District – 2020
3. Nominate the Chicago Club & Belvedere Club neighborhoods for the National Register – 2021
4. Expand the Earl Young Local Historic District into Charlevoix Township – 2022
5. Survey the rest of Charlevoix to determine other eligible districts - 2023

Motion made by Mary Adams and supported by John Campbell that the five listed goals be approved.
Unanimous approval.

b. Request for Removal from Historic District – Feldman

Dotson reported that the Feldmans had been informed that the City rejected their request that their two properties be removed from the Earl Young District.

c. Ordinance Update

Dotson provided copies (attached) of the amendment to Ordinance #800 that the City Council approved on April 15, 2019. It primarily requires that a fire or smoke alarm system be put in place before completion of any work on designated historic structures.

d. Park Avenue street and parking areas

Vicki Voisin reported that when she asked First Ward Councilpersons for an update on the plans for the repairs to the Park Avenue Street and parking areas which are next to the Earl Young Historic Buildings Local Historic District, both Janel Kalbfell and Aaron Hagen were unaware of any proposed plans. Kalbfell agreed to ask for further information from the City Manager. Kalbfell reported back that the first grant application for funds to begin the work had been denied, and that the City was applying again.

e. Signage for the two ends of Earl Young Historic Buildings Local Historic District. Dotson provided examples of signs which exist in other communities, and commissioners initialed their preferences so that possible mock-ups for our own district can be drawn.

6) New Business

a. Application for Certificate of Appropriateness – Charlevoix Historical Society

1. Installation of striped canvas awnings on four turret windows at the Train Depot. After review of the application and the accompanying photos by the commission a motion was made by John Campbell as follows:

I move that the Commission issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for application number three (3). The work as proposed meets standard 6 of “The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation.”

Seconded by Mary Adams and unanimously approved.

2. Placement of an interpretive historic sign at the Train Depot. After review of the application and the accompanying photos by the commission a motion was made by Mary Adams as follows:

I move that the Commission issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for application number four (4). The work as proposed meets standard 10 of “The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation.”

Seconded by Paul Weston and unanimously approved.

*Point of privilege: Kay Heise read and requested to add to the record the following recently discovered excerpt from the Clockwise column by Bob Clock, editor of the Charlevoix Courier, June 11, 1975:

“Few men leave behind so many tangible monuments to their artistry as Earl Young. And few monuments in this tear-‘em-down, build-‘em-up world are more worthy of preservation than Mr. Young’s fanciful homes and business places.”

7) Request for Future Agenda Items

- Report from Mary Adams as to her discussion with Pat Elliot of the Streets Department as to his ability to place “no parking” signs or other restrictions on the Park Avenue shoulder across from the Earl Young Historic Buildings Local Historic District.
- Possible historic signage choices provided by Lindsey Dotson.

8) Adjournment: The agreement to adjourn was unanimously approved. Motion made by Mary Adams and supported by David Miles. Meeting adjourned at 11:51 am.

Next Meeting: as needed

Submitted by: Kay Heise, Secretary