

CITY OF CLEVELAND HEIGHTS LANDMARK COMMISSION

Minutes for the regular meeting of
January 4, 2023

At 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 4, 2023, a regular meeting of the Landmark Commission was held in the Executive Conference Room in City Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mazie Adams
Ken Goldberg
Tom Veider
Benjamin Sperry
Mark Souther
Margaret Lann

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jim Edmonson

STAFF PRESENT

BreAnna Kirk, Planner I

COUNCIL PRESENT

OTHERS PRESENT

Andrew Jones
Lisa S. Roth
Nancy Bennett
Richard Lawson
Diana Wellman
Peggy Kennedy

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 1, 2022 LANDMARK COMMISSION MEETING

Approved as submitted.

STAFF REPORT

Landmark Ordinance and Procedures

Ms. Kirk will submit a CLG Grant application for funds to update and revise the Landmark Commission Ordinance, Chapter 143 of the

Codified Ordinance of Cleveland Heights. The Forest Hill Homeowners Association will likely be applying for the same grant for funds to repair the Abeyton Realty Corporation Office, a Landmark property located at 2419 Lee Blvd.

A set of Landmark Commission fees and fines goes into effect today along with a new Certificate of Appropriateness Application.

National Register of Historic Places

Ms. Kirk met with representatives of the Oakwood Drive Historic District about their signage. The signs must be installed on public property, but Oakwood Drive is private and there were not any acceptable locations on public property. Two property owners within the historic district have agreed to grant the City a small easement for the signs. One will be located at the alley entrance off of Wood Road and the other will be placed on Oakwood Drive at the start of the brick road.

Development Updates

The Noble Library expansion received approval from the Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals. It is on the January 19th, 2023 Architectural Board of Review agenda.

The Taylor-Tudor project did not receive the tax credit award. It was 1 point away. Projects that were previously awarded funding were awarded additional funding during this cycle (for COVID reasons) so there were only 4 new application winners. The development team plans to submit again.

OLD BUSINESS

Landmark Ordinance and Procedures

No updates.

Potential Landmarks

Andrew Jones, owner of potential Landmark property 2498 Princeton Road, the Alfred and Mayme Copes House, stated he received the letter in the mail encouraging him to attend a Landmark Commission meeting and to nominate his home for Landmark status. Mr. Souther shared his research on the property. The Copes family were the first African American home owners in Cleveland Heights. Mr. Copes is listed as the builder on the original building permit. Mr. and Mrs. Copes lived in their home from 1923 to 1940. The couple was targeted by their white neighbors and appear to have left hastily. Ms. Adams said

this is a very significant home. She feels it is important to tell the story of our African American history as well as acknowledge the injustices in the history of the community. Listing a house like this is important on a number of levels and Ms. Adams encouraged Mr. Jones to nominate his home.

Landmark Properties

No updates.

Preservation Activities and Lectures

The Commission is working with the library on Spring preservation lectures. Possible topics include the history of Forest Hill, post-war home construction/architecture, Fairhill Road Village, and historic building maintenance and repair.

CH-UH Archives group/Cleveland Memory/Cleveland Historical

Mr. Souther said there is a new story on Fairhill Road Village on Cleveland Historical.

National Register of Historic Places, District Updates

No updates.

Development Updates

No updates.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Lann said she had spoken with residents of The Alcazar, 2450 Derbyshire Road. She said it is under new management and there are plans for renovations, which include changes, if not the removal, of the fountain and other areas of the courtyard. She was not sure if the Landmark Designation included parts of the building's interior. Several residents of The Alcazar voiced their concerns. Ms. Kirk will confirm what parts of the property are Landmarked and ensure the new management is aware.

Diana Wellman is on the development team for Park Synagogue, 3300 Mayfield Road. She said they are applying for state tax credits and applying to list the property on the National Register of Historic Places. Because Park Synagogue was designated as Landmark before the City of Cleveland Heights became a Certified Local Government (CLG), it is not recognized as a Landmark by the State of Ohio. In order for the state to recognize its status, the Landmark Commission has to re-

certify the designation. Commissioners revised the text on the certificate.

MOTION: Ms. Lann moved to re-certify Park Synagogue, 3300 Mayfield Road, as a Cleveland Heights Landmark, as outlined on the revised certificate. Seconded by Mr. Sperry, the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Souther is resigning from the Landmark Commission. He can stay on as late as April to allow time for a new appointment.

Commissioners expressed their gratitude for Mr. Souther's work.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Commission adjourned at 7:16 p.m. The next regular meeting date will be Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the Executive Conference Room, second floor of City Hall. [Meeting time and location may be subject to change due to Architectural Board of Review agenda.]

Respectfully submitted,



BreAnna Kirk, Secretary

Approved,



Mazie Adams, Chair