

**CITY OF CLEVELAND HEIGHTS
LANDMARK COMMISSION**

Minutes for the Regular Meeting of
May 2, 2023

At 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 2, 2023, a regular meeting of the Landmark Commission was held in the Executive Conference Room in City Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mazie Adams
Jim Edmonson
Ken Goldberg
Margaret Lann
Benjamin Sperry
Tom Veider

MEMBERS ABSENT

Danielle Cohen

STAFF PRESENT

Eric Zamft, Director of Planning & Development

COUNCIL PRESENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

None

CALL TO ORDER

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

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 8, 2023 LANDMARK COMMISSION MEETING

Approved with corrected text per request of Mr. Goldberg.

STAFF REPORT

Landmark Ordinance and Procedures

Mr. Zamft noted that the CLG Grant awards had not yet been announced. He reminded the Landmark Commission that the City applied to fund revisions to the Landmark Commission Ordinance, while others applied for the Blue Cottage Foundation Restoration and Oakwood Drive Historic Brick Road Restoration.

Potential Landmarks

Ms. Lann noted that she had reached out, but had not heard further from members of the Forest Hill area about becoming a Local Landmark District.

Mr. Sperry indicated that Fairmount Presbyterian Church membership was still interested in submitting a nomination and that their administrative council would next meet in June.

Landmark Properties

Mr. Zamft reported that the Commission met with the DLR Group regarding the restoration of the Garfield Memorial in Lake View Cemetery on March 13, 2023 and that the DLR Group had submitted the requisite documents. A site visit for formal approval had been scheduled for May 4, 2023.

National Register of Historic Places

Mr. Zamft indicated that the easements for the Oakwood Drive National Register Signs has been recorded and that the signs would be going up. Ms. Adams stated that there typically would be a ribbon-cutting, where the Commission, Council, and members of the neighborhood would be invited.

Development/Planning Updates

Mr. Zamft updated the Commission on the following development projects:

- The Noble Library expansion was moving forward and was awaiting Building Permits. Ms. Lann suggested that the Commission should engage with the Library about landmarking it and that it could still be eligible once complete.
- The Taylor-Tudor rehabilitation was moving forward and there was nothing of note to report.
- The Park Synagogue redevelopment had applied for and was awaiting Historic Tax Credit award announcement. They were deferring National Register application until fall.
- Nothing new on Alcazar.
- The Cedar-Lee-Meadowbrook ground-breaking was scheduled for 5/16
- Improvements to the Coventry Library Peace Park was on the May 2023 Planning Commission agenda

Mr. Zamft also provided updates on staffing, including that a new Commissioner – Danielle Cohen – had been appointed by Council on May 1, 2023.

Finally, Mr. Zamft noted that there would be an educational joint session with the Architectural Board of Review on roofs on May 9, 2023.

OLD BUSINESS

Landmark Ordinance and Procedures

No updates.

Potential Landmarks

No updates

Landmark Properties

The Landmark Commission noted that the Ohio Historic Marker sign that was down at Lower Lakes (North Woodland Drive) was likely with the Nature Center. It was noted that they were looking for donations for a new sign. Ms. Adams stated that the historical marker signs on the State level were experiencing problems related to their construction.

Preservation Activities & Lectures

Ms. Adams noted that May is National Preservation Month. There had already been an event on May 1st regarding the Cleveland Civil Rights Trail that was recorded and will be posted. Upcoming events include on May 25th about the Forest Hill mansion and June 7th regarding the Fairhill Road Village. Ms. Adams suggested that the Commission should think about programming for the fall. Ms. Lann suggested Jewish-African American architecture in the City of Cleveland.

CH-UH Archives Group/Cleveland Memory/Cleveland Historical

Mr. Zamft noted that the Cleveland Memory Partners meeting was on July 24, 2023.

National Register of Historic Places, District Updates

No updates outside of the Staff Report.

Development Updates

No updates outside of the Staff Report.

Grant Updates

No updates outside of the Staff Report.

NEW BUSINESS

Re-Certification and Re-Naming of Landmark – Frieda F. & Morris L. Finneburgh House, 3111 Monticello Road

Mr. Zamft and Ms. Adams presented proposed changes to the Morris L. Finneburgh certificate, including the request from Laura Grebus, the property owner, to rename the Landmark the "Frieda F. & Morris L. Finneburgh House" as well as to include information about Frieda. There was much discussion about revising the text to reflect Frieda's early career as one of the first Radio City Rockettes. Commissioners revised the text on the certificate and requested that the revised text be shared with the property owner prior to finalization.

MOTION: Ms. Lann moved to re-certify and re-name Frieda F. & Morris L. Finneburgh House, 3111 Monticello Road, as a Cleveland Heights Landmark, as outlined on the revised certificate pending sharing with the property owner¹. Seconded by Mr. Veider, the motion was unanimously approved.

Re-Certification Process

The Landmark Commission began their re-evaluation and re-certification of all landmarked properties. Commissioners had submitted suggested revisions on a number of landmarked properties.

Lake View Cemetery, Mayfield and Kenilworth Roads

The Commission decided to focus on Lake View Cemetery. Mr. Edmonson presented proposed revisions to the landmark certificate. There was much discussion about revising the text to identify a diverse set of individuals who are buried there. Commissioners revised the text on the certificate.

MOTION: Mr. Sperry moved to re-certify Lake View Cemetery, Mayfield and Kenilworth Roads, as a Cleveland Heights Landmark, as outlined on the revised certificate. Seconded by Mr. Goldberg, the motion was unanimously approved.

¹ The revised certificate was shared with the property owner and finalized subsequent to the meeting.

Ms. Adams suggested that the Commission discuss three (3) landmarked properties at the next Landmark meeting on July 5, 2023.

Other

Mr. Goldberg indicated that since the Heights Community Congress (HCC) had ceased operation, the Heights Heritage tours would be coming to an end. He further stated that the Cleveland Heights Historical Society would not be able to run those tours. The Landmark Commission discussed potential options for the tours to continue, but noted that the Landmark Commission on its own would not be able to. The Landmark Commission discussed ways in which the Commission or individuals could contribute.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Commission adjourned 6:49 p.m. The next regular meeting date will be Wednesday, July 5, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the Executive Conference Room, second floor of City Hall.

Respectfully submitted,



Eric Zamft, Acting Secretary

Approved,



Mazie Adams, Chair