

Submitted: February 15, 2018

Approved: February 15, 2018

**MINUTES OF THE ROCKVILLE
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MEETING NO. 1-2018
Thursday, January 18, 2018**

The City of Rockville Historic District Commission convened
in the Blue Crab Conference Room on
January 18, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Matthew Goguen, Chair
Emily Correll
Laurie Kawa
Anita Neal Powell

Absent: Rob Achtmeyer

Present: Jim Wasilak, Chief of Zoning

I. AGENDA REVIEW WORKSESSION (Blue Crab Conference Room)

Chair Goguen introduced the members. He noted that the agenda review worksession occurred and that no decisions were made.

II. COMMITTEE / ORGANIZATION REPORTS (Mayor and Council Chamber)

- A. Peerless Rockville – Nancy Pickard noted several recent events, including the December 12 presentation on the history of Rockville for students and parents of Ritchie Park Elementary School, and the December 14 presentation by Eileen McGuckian on the history of Rockville. She invited members of the public to attend a screening of Community Cornerstones, a film made by Heritage Montgomery covering African-American churches in the county. In addition, Peerless Rockville will be the recipient of a grant from the Department of the Interior for an exhibit on Underground Railroad activities in Rockville.
- B. Lincoln Park Historical Foundation – No report.
- C. Public Comments/Open Forum – None.
- D. HDC and Staff Comments – None.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 21, 2017

Commissioner Correll moved, seconded by Commissioner Kawa, to approve the December 21, 2017 meeting minutes. The motion passed 3-0, with Commissioner Neal Powell abstaining and Commissioner Achtmeyer absent.

- B. CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL HDC2018-00881, Mayor and Council of Rockville** – for an amendment to previously approved application HDC2016-00873, to change the style and location of the roof-mounted snow guards.

Commission Correll moved, seconded by Commissioner Neal Powell, to approve the application as submitted. The motion passed 4-0, with Commissioner Achtmeyer absent.

IV. EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

- A. Evaluation of Significance HDC2018-00878, Jack and Anne Baur** – evaluation to allow demolition of structures on the property at 537 Anderson Avenue.

Mr. Wasilak reviewed the application and noted that staff had been unable to locate additional information on the barn since the last meeting. Staff continued to find that the property did not meet any of the criteria for historic designation.

Jack and Anne Baur, applicants, as well as Nancy Pickard of Peerless Rockville, addressed the Commission regarding the property and that very little information was available on the barn. The Commission discussed documentation of the barn, to which the Baur's were agreeable to make it available if Ms. Pickard could arrange it.

Commissioner Kawa moved, seconded by Commissioner Correll, to find that the property does not meet any of the criteria for historic designation. The motion passed 4-0, with Commissioner Achtmeyer absent.

V. DISCUSSION

A. Old Business

- 1. Courtesy Review of Proposed Development on Properties Adjacent to Historic Districts** – Mr. Wasilak introduced the subject, and reviewed the practices of other jurisdictions that had been assembled by Sheila Bashiri. He suggested that if the HDC chooses to proceed with the concept, then staff would bring back suggested language and potentially a map showing the properties potentially impacted by such a review.

John Becker of Americana Centre Condominium addressed the Commission, supporting staff comments and emphasizing that the intent of the initial request was not to overburden an applicant or the Commission but to accomplish a thorough review as part of the development review process.

Nancy Pickard also addressed the Commission, having submitted a letter in support of the review. She recommends that the review take place at the earliest stage in the development process as possible. She also recommended that the standards for review should be contained in the updated historic district guidelines.

Mr. Wasilak suggested that language appropriate for the Master Plan be brought back for discussion at the next meeting. The Commission agreed that a map showing property impacts would be useful in order to provide further comments.

B. New Business – None.

VI. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Chair Goguen adjourned the meeting at 8:28 p.m.