

City of Portage – Historic District Commission
Wednesday, May 4th, 2011 @ 8:15 a.m.
Portage City Hall – Conference Room #2

MINUTES

Present: Mark Reile, Katie VanLonkhuyzen, Philip Ellison, Erica Eklov, Rose Mary Higginbottom, Tiffany Raynes, Michele Carter, Dorie Erhig, Christine Broberg

Absent: Tyler Harper

1. Tony Davis, homeowner for 1521 Centre Street, filled out an application for new siding or repainting the exterior. He also would like to replace the roof. Tony's contractor, Marc Mater, attended the meeting on behalf of Tony. Tony would prefer to vinyl side, however, restoration of the wood siding is more fitting of the historic character of the house. The house is planned to be a rental and vinyl is less cost and maintenance. Philip moved to approve the application. Katie felt samples of the selected materials would be required to approve the application. Mark agreed, requesting samples of the siding, shingles, and colors preferred. A vote was taken, approving the application pending material approvals. The application to use vinyl siding and replace the roof was approved 7 to 1.
2. The annual homeowners' gathering is in only three weeks. The feasibility of planning the event in such a short time frame was discussed, and the Commission felt it would work. The Portage District Library was selected as the venue for the May 26th event. Architect Nelson Nave was selected as the speaker. Refreshments, calls to homeowners, and the agenda still have to be completed. The time planned is 6:30 to 8:30. Christine volunteered to handle the refreshments: the Commission would like to spend \$100 or less. Katie will do the agenda. Dorie will contact the Kalamazoo Gazette regarding the event.
3. Michele reported on the Mini Home Tour with the Portage Senior Center. Mark and Michele took a bus tour with 14 other participants. This event supports the Commission's goal of increasing public awareness. Mark and Michele shared the district guidebook. The bus tour included nine homes including sites 21, 27, 35, 36, 38, 37, 17, 18, and 28. Participants judged the properties on five criteria with site #38 (704 Bacon) receiving the highest scores. This is the home of John and Beverly Pike.
4. John and Beverly Pike will be given the Preservation Award for 2011. They will be given a personal plaque as well as having their names added to the plaque in the Grain Elevator. Mark will take care of both.

Citizen Comments: None

Member Comments: None

Adjournment: 10:00 a.m.