

Michigan State Historic Preservation Review Board Meeting Minutes January 20, 2023

Minutes of the State Historic Preservation Review Board Meeting

Friday, January 20, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

*Lake Michigan Room, Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 North Washington Square, Lansing, Michigan 48913*

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Dean Anderson, Devan Anderson, Daniel Bollman, Kemba Braynon, Lane Demas, Sharon Ferraro, Krysta Ryzewski

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Matthew Daley, Lakota Hobia (both pre-excused)

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Amy Arnold, Martha MacFarlane-Faes, Cassandra Nelson, Nathan Nietering, Todd Walsh, Katlyn Yancho, State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)

Jon Stuckey, Austin Wright, Michigan Office of the Attorney General (AG)

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT

From list.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLLCALL

Board Chair Kemba Braynon called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda of the January 20, 2023 regular board meeting.

Motion: Devan Anderson

Second: Dean Anderson

Vote: 7-0

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 23, 2022

Board Comments: None

Motion to approve the minutes as proposed.

Motion: Ferraro

Second: Demas

Vote: 7-0

4. APPROVAL OF 2023 MEETING DATES

Proposed dates for consideration: May 19, 2023, September 22, 2023,
January 19, 2024

Motion to approve the meeting dates as proposed

Motion: Ferraro

Second: Ryzewski

Vote: 7-0

5. SHPO STAFF REPORTS

a. SHPO Report – Martha MacFarlane-Faes

MacFarlane-Faes highlighted progress with hiring new staff members to fill critical vacancies in the office. New historians Cassandra Nelson and Katlyn Yancho introduced themselves to the review board. Both will be primary reviewers for Section 106 consultation. With the addition of these two historians, six SHPO staff are now involved in the Section 106 review process. A new architect will also be starting in early February to support the state tax credit and easement programs. The deadline for the State Historic Preservation Officer position posting has been extended to early February to try to maximize the candidate pool. SHPO also recently said goodbye to its long time student assistant Jessica Puff, who relocated to Hawaii to lead a program area at the Hawaii SHPO. In December, Quentin Messer, the CEO of SHPO's parent agency the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, spent half a day with our staff to learn more about SHPO and our roles and responsibilities.

MISHPO has submitted another federal African American Civil Rights program grant application to put forward the Orsel and Minnie McGhee House in Detroit for National Historic Landmark consideration. SHPO presently has many grant applications open right now and is limiting the number of new grants being sought in order to try to match staff capacity. The controversial Anaem Omot National Register nomination heard at the previous Review Board meeting was recently forwarded to the National Park Service (NPS); the press has been interested in following along with the results of this listing. Three review board members, a number of SHPO staff and our two AG attorneys conducted a virtual training and Q&A with the administrative law judges who serve on the Michigan Office of Administrative Rules and Hearings, who hear the local historic district appeal cases before they make their way to the review board. This informative session discussed preservation in general and what the review board does.

MacFarlane-Faes continued with an update on the state tax credit program, announcing that it would launch for 2023 on January 23, for the residential credit only. 2022 applications are still being processed, but with such overwhelming interest, we expect all commercial credits for 2023 are already subscribed based on the carryover from 2022, so those credits will not be offered this year.

In a summary of recent grant news, five applications were received for the Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program grant opportunity for 2023, they are

being reviewed and awards made in March. Grant recipients for the Resilient Lakeshore Heritage Grant opportunity offered last year have been chosen and a press release will be coming out shortly. A total of \$750,000 is being awarded to nine applicants who are a mix of non-profits, local governments, and business owners, with individual awards between \$50,000-100,000. Awards will be given for projects in Calumet, Sault Ste. Marie, Mackinac Island, Rogers City, Alpena, Bay City, South Haven, Holland, and Charlevoix. In addition to bricks-and-mortar rehabilitation activities, grant funds for some projects will also be used to list properties in the National Register. The Certified Local Government program recently added its 41st participating community, Saginaw, among a slew of other recently added communities. This year's CLG grant application window will close February 1.

MacFarlane-Faes concluded by noting that about 3 years ago the SHPO began phasing in new Section 106 consultation forms and requiring those forms to be completed by individuals who meet the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualification standards. Since that time there has been a 70% increase in the number of consultants who are qualified to do this work in Michigan, some of which are opening up business in the state to do this work where they had not done so before. Despite this, we have heard from several consultants that they are working at full capacity and still turn down opportunities to take on additional work in cultural resource management.

b. NRHP Report – Todd Walsh

Walsh shared a three page summary report provided in the board packet which is a summary of all National Register actions undertaken over three years between January 1, 2020-December 31, 2022.

c. Archaeology Report – Sarah Surface-Evans

Surface-Evans highlighted Michigan Archaeology Day which took place in late October in partnership with the Michigan DNR. The event included about 20 exhibitors and two featured speakers. About 330 people attended, which is still down from pre-pandemic numbers but higher than the 2021 event. The day was largely a success. In tandem with this, for the first time in several years, SHPO produced a Michigan Archaeology Poster, which featured a discussion of urban archaeology and the recent past relating to a project taking place on the former site of Paradise Valley and the Douglass Homes site in Detroit. The poster will be entered into the annual state archaeology poster competition at the Society for American Archaeology conference in the spring.

In November, SHPO archaeology hosted a ground penetrating radar workshop in an effort to train and educate tribal partners, co-organized with the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe and the USDA; about 15 people attended. We hope to offer similar workshops in the future. We also hosted a first-ever SHPO-THPO open house, a hybrid event in mid-November. Representatives from 5 of Michigan's Tribes attended, which allowed for a meet and greet and a series of short presentations by SHPO staff about relevant program areas, and provided

opportunities for discussion and questions from tribal representatives. The goal is to make this an annual event to better increase communication among the tribes and our staff members.

- d. **2023 Governor's Awards for Historic Preservation – Nathan Nietering**
4 projects were proposed to receive Governor's Awards for Historic Preservation.
Board Comments: None.

Motion to accept and recommend the slate of proposed awardees as presented
Motion: Ferraro
Second: Dean Anderson
Vote: 7-0

6. PUBLIC COMMENT & CORRESPONDENCE

Summary of Correspondence:

Individual letters of support were sent in support of the Saint Matthew Parish nomination, Cadieux School nomination, and Barnes Avenue School nomination.

Summary of Public Comment:

None.

7. NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATIONS

a. Saint Matthew Parish, Detroit, Wayne County

Presented by Kristine Kidorf

Board Comments: Braynon commented that it was nice to see this church example from architects Donaldson and Meier, who were well known in Detroit for their school designs. Also, the church complex is very nicely maintained.

Motion to approve the nomination as presented.

Criteria and Level: C, local, criteria consideration a.

Motion: Dean Anderson

Second: Devan Anderson

Vote: 7-0

b. Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company Detroit Warehouse, Detroit, Wayne County

Presented by Kristine Kidorf

Board Comments: Ferraro asked what the future plans are for this building. Kidorf responded that a tax credit rehabilitation into residential and commercial is planned. Bollman noted that the nomination stated that the architect Fitzpatrick was very well known in his time but not very well known now and wondered

where information was found. Kidorf responded that there was only a passing mention in a trade journal of the time, and that she had never heard of him before. Walsh added that he was known to be a prolific writer, but as a consulting architect, there just doesn't seem to be the same physical legacy of credit as there might be for other contemporaries. Dean Anderson shared that Fitzpatrick had also done work in Duluth, where he has family, and it was interesting to learn more about his work with red sandstone in the northern part of that state, Braynon added that this nomination is an important part of honoring Fitzpatrick's legacy.

Motion to approve the nomination as presented.

Criteria and Level: C, local

Motion: Bollman

Second: Demas

Vote: 7-0

c. John Grace Elementary School, Southfield, Oakland County

Presented by Kristine Kidorf

Board Comments: None.

Motion to approve the nomination as presented.

Criteria and Level: A, local

Motion: Demas

Second: Bollman

Vote: 7-0

d. Clark Equipment Company Complex, Buchanan, Berrien County

Presented by Kurt Garner

Board Comments: Ferraro noted that there is a geographic mistake referencing Jackson Michigan's position relative to Buchanan. She continued that this nomination was fascinating to read, especially the attention given to the gatehouses and other lesser buildings of the complex.

Motion to approve the nomination as presented.

Criteria and Level: A&C, local

Motion: Ferraro

Second: Ryzewski

Vote: 7-0

e. Cadieux School, Grosse Pointe, Wayne County

Presented by Dawn Bilobran

Board Comments: Bollman pointed out that the three school nominations today present a great view into the development and consolidation of schools.

Motion to approve the nomination as presented.
Criteria and Level: A&C, local
Motion: Devan Anderson
Second: Bollman
Vote: 7-0

f. Barnes Avenue School, Lansing, Ingham County
Presented by Heather Rudge

Board Comments: Braynon agreed that the terrazzo guard rail was certainly a unique feature, and the forethought needed to design the original school so that adding an addition would have no impact on existing school and classes. Devan Anderson stated the only other terrazzo guard rail he could recall was on another public school in Lansing.

Motion to approve the nomination as presented.
Criteria and Level: C, local
Motion: Bollman
Second: Devan Anderson
Vote: 7-0

Note: The board took a lunch break from 12:00-12:21pm.

8. LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT STUDY COMMITTEE REPORTS – Amy Arnold

a. Vinsetta Bridges Historic District, Royal Oak, Oakland County

Board comments: Ferraro asked if the Vinsetta Park neighborhood presently had any historic designation. Arnold responded it does not. Ferraro continued that this reminded her of a neighborhood in Gainesville, Georgia, which has a similar arrangement. Ferraro also called out that she agreed with Arnold that the boundary lines must be very definitive.

b. 1-21 Kercheval Historic District, Grosse Pointe Farms, Wayne County

Board comments: Ferraro pointed out that finding significant features that were not altered was a challenge, considering many changes were made less than 50 years ago. She agreed with Arnold's comments and assessment.

c. City Hall Local Historic District, Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo County

Board comments: Ferraro voiced strong support for Arnold's comments. Better discussion of public interior spaces would be beneficial, and adding a mention of interior storm windows which are an important energy-saving feature. Ferraro also noted some typos that need to be corrected.

Braynon asked Arnold if Board Member comments are included with the SHPO's comments back to the local community. Arnold responded affirmatively that both SHPO and Board comments are included.

9. APPEALS

a. Dean Sigler v. Detroit Historic District Commission

Board Comments: Ferraro stated she felt this local commission made exactly the right decision. Bollman reiterated that the local HDCs are responsible for determining what constitutes significant features, and they absolutely have the ability to make this decision. Ferraro added that the HDC are the local experts.

Motion to adopt the proposal for decision that the appeal filed in the case of Dean Sigler v. Detroit Historic District Commission be upheld.

Motion: Ferraro

Second: Bollman

Vote: 7-0

10. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

May 19, 2023, September 22, 2023, January 19, 2024

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: Devan Anderson

Second: Ferraro

Vote: 7-0

Meeting adjourned at 12:51 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Nathan Nietering