

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
ST. CLAIR SHORES HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

**Local History Center
Tuesday, August 3, 2021**

PRESENT:

Chairperson	Mr. Gerald Sielagoski
Vice-Chair	Mr. John Cilluffo
Secretary	Mr. Michael Leydet
Treasurer	Ms. Kathleen Campbell
Members	Ms. Janet Horan
	Ms. Kay VanDeGraaf
City Librarian	Mrs. Rosemary Orlando

EXCUSED:

Members	Ms. Jeanne Strigley
City Liaison	Ms. Candice Rusie

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Sielagoski called the Regular Meeting of the St. Clair Shores Historical Commission to order at 7:00 PM

Moved by Horan, supported by Leydet to excuse Jeanne Strigley and Candice Rusie absence from the meeting.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion Carried

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Horan, supported by Leydet, to adopt the agenda

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion Carried

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Horan, supported by Leydet, to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2021 Regular Meeting of the St. Clair Shores Historical Commission with a correction noting that Mr. Lewis was willing to volunteer to help with the barn project, but not as a potential donor, as stated in the Barn Fund Raising Update.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion Carried

Minutes signed by Secretary Michael Leydet.

IV. INFORMATION REPORTS

A. Museum Activities

Orlando reported that the Yardeners group is conducting a garden tour on the museum grounds on Saturday August 6th. They also help distribute mulch that was delivered to the museum grounds.

There will be an ad in the Library newsletter stating that if anyone wishes to tour the museum, they should contact the library to schedule the tour. Several St. Clair Shores resident groups have been scheduled and docents are available to lead these tours.

Orlando will be posting the opening for the curator position within the next couple of weeks.

B. Historical Society Report

Gmail account “scshistoricalsociety@gmail” is available and will require a name to be associated with this account. Campbell will create an account for the Historical Society using Janet Horan as the name for setting up this account and this account will be separate from the Historical Society banking email account.

Campbell will provide via email the proposed Historical Society letter to the Commission members for review. The Commission members can provide editorial feedback regarding the Historical Society letter via email to Campbell within 10 days from the Aug 3rd meeting.

C. Genealogy Group Report

Sielagoski stated that there were no updates for the Genealogy Group.

D. Comments by Individual Commission Members

Horan wished everyone a Happy Labor Day.

VanDeGraaf indicated that she has obtained the Barn project documents from Theresa Bertolini’s family and now has all of the drawings, grant applications, and reports and has organized this documentation for the Historical Commission. Campbell offered to meet with VanDeGraaf to supply some empty binders and to assist with further organizing the documentation from Bertolini.

E. Librarians Report

The Library will be opening up the building for outside group events on Labor Day, September 6th. The Toastmasters have been scheduled; however, this could change as a result of emerging events due to COVID 19. The city has not mandated mask use in the

Library but Orlando and some staff members are continuing to wear masks to be courteous to others sensitive to potential COVID 19 exposure.

The Friends of the SCSPL are having a book sale on Saturday, August 7th from 10:00AM until 2:00PM in the reading lounge/gift shop area and they are having a 50% off sale on gift shop items.

The summer reading club was successful and has just completed. The club meetings were held on the museum grounds and at the city parks. State of Michigan reports were provided as required by the state for summer reading initiatives. There is a place on these reports that identifies how many participants attended reading events. Well over 100 children were counted as participants. The Shorewood Kiwanis supplied funding for reading buddies (stuffed animals) for these children, and over 200 were distributed.

The adult summer reading club with over 40 adults participating was also held this year.

A resident and comic book retailer held a comic book show with over 300 attendees at the Bruce Post recently and donated \$1.00 for every ticket sold to the Library.

Orlando offered to facilitate any Commission member wanting to post a solicitation such as “Historical Commission member needed” on the Library Facebook page or in the Library newsletter. She requested that they provide a write up to her as needed.

Orlando asked that when anyone is dropping off anything in the Library such as the plaque for the Historical Marker for pick up by the home owner that they please ask for the “librarian in charge” at that time to explain what the need is.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Historical Markers for Residences/Businesses Update:

The Historical Marker for the home located at 22114 Avalon St. Clair Shores was delivered to the library by Cilluffo. The residents picked up the marker at the City Library and it was placed on their home on the same day.

Historical City Marker Update:

The City Historical Marker for Van’s Used Cars has been installed. Campbell met with Maurice Van Coillie and asked for dates and requested 3 to 4 weeks of advance notice in order for the invitations to be sent out. She also indicated that a luncheon is not necessary for the larger group. Campbell is coordinating with his daughter to scale down any planned luncheon to his family and specific invited guests. Chairs and cold drinks were also suggested for the dedication ceremony on site, if desired.

Campbell will be reaching out to Viviano Flower Shop in the fall for preparation of the new City Marker.

Barn Fund Raising Update:

All of the materials including the drawings are in the possession of VanDeGraaf at this time. New drawings will likely be needed for any future development.

Orlando suggested that a city committee is being formed to identify which projects will be funded in the city which includes consideration for the Barn Project. The information compiled by VanDeGraaf and Orlando was submitted to City Council last month and they have not asked for anything else at this time.

Teresa Bertolini's house had a flood but there will be an estate sale on Aug 13th - 15th tentatively.

Historical Tour Map Update:

Campbell has been working on a list of needs for the Harper Avenue map so that we can be more organized for the next sub-committee meeting. Other have been providing additional information for the map. There was some discussion about timing of the historically relevant building along Harper. Campbell stated that there was not an era specific date range. We are looking only at what the business or buildings were used for over the years and identifying any historically significant or interesting characteristic. Some discussions were held mentioning the large green water tank on 10 mile and Harper, the old Neuman's hardware and the Morris Toy Store that used to be in the current Deronnes Hardware location north of Martin Road as possible points of interest.

Commission Roster

The updated Historical Commission Roster was reviewed again for accuracy and the new information for Srigley verified.

Muskrat Tales

Campbell and Orlando will be meeting in the future to go through the Muskrat Tales inventory. Sielagoski asked to be included.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

None

VII. AUDIENCE

None.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Horan, supported by Cilluffo, to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM.

Ayes: All Nays: None Motion Carried

The next meeting of the St. Clair Shores Historical Commission will be held on September 7, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the SCSPL in the Local History Center.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Leydet,
Recording Secretary