

HISTORICAL COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

Minutes

September 26, 2024

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:05pm
2. Roll call: Laura Myers, Jill Keller, Brandon Porterfield, Robert Senn, David Murphy
3. Approval of amended agenda: Robert motioned to approve and Brandon second, all ayes
4. Public Comment: none
5. Approval of minutes from 6/27/2024: Brandon motioned to approve and Robert second, all ayes
6. Financial report: the grant money used for the repairs to Governor Warner Mansion stays with the state of Michigan and we request payment as work is completed or underway
7. Warner Mansion upcoming activities:
 - a. Holly days in December
 - b. Mansion improvement work
 - c. Rummage sale on October 11th and 12th at the mansion carriage house – volunteers to help are welcomed. Please let Laura know if you know someone or you yourself are interested.
8. New Business:
 - a. Addition to the southwest corner of the First Baptist Church on Shiawassee:
 - i. The church needs to make it ADA assessable.
 - ii. They are installing a lift to be able to get wheelchairs into the basement and changing the lobby.
 - iii. The update is to the newer portion of the building.
 - iv. They will remove an office area and incorporate it into the lobby.
 - v. Keeping the historical essence to the architecture will be incorporated into the addition.
 - vi. Jill motioned to approve changes, Robert second, all ayes
 - b. Annual report to City Council:
 - i. The historic commission needs to re-look at our bi-laws and make sure they are still current to the direction of the mansion usage after the repairs are all complete. The idea is to use the mansion more as an event location instead of just a museum.
 - ii. We discussed keeping some historic artifacts in the mansion but have it shift to a more current feel. We don't want to remove all historic artifacts as it adds to the experience of the mansion.
 - iii. We discussed the need for a ramp to be built on the back of the porch to make it wheelchair assessable. We are still pushing to get wood added to the cellar door

to make it look more to the period of the house. David said he would talk to Chuck about getting these done.

- iv. Discussed getting this presented to city council at the October 21st meeting
- v. Brandon motioned to approve the push to city council, Robert second, all ayes
- c. 2024 recipient of the Dick Carvell Award: Rick Gundlach was discussed as a good recipient of this award this year for his many years of service and contributions to the city of Farmington. Jill motioned to approve, Brandon second, all ayes

9. Old Business:

- a. Historic District Survey: Rudy has 25-30 pictures left to upload and Brandon has about 25 left to upload.
- b. Collections policy: the request is that we only keep artifacts in the mansion that were from Governor Warner and during the time he lived in the mansion. We discussed that the artifacts need to be related to Farmington from significant or important figures in Farmington history. A lot of stuff needs to be removed from the mansion as not being historical or related to Farmington. Some of the artifacts need to be researched to find out if they are worth anything. The collection scope needs some wording changes that David is going to make and send to the committee for approval. We suggested allowing artifacts that are only from the timeframe 1865 to 1920, this covers when the mansion was built by P.D. Warner until the final time Fred Warner lived in the mansion.

10. Correspondence and communications: none

11. Commission Comments: Rummage sales coming up on October 11th and 12th

12. Adjournment at 8:10pm by Laura