

Village of Mantua – Landmarks Commission – Meeting Minutes 9/12/2020

Toomas Tubalkain called meeting to order at 10:18am

In attendance:

Nick Ehlert

Toomas Tubalkain

Emily Hammonds

Clark Magdych

Clark made a motion to excuse Ellie Stamm, who was unable to attend; Nick seconded.

Old Business

1. Toomas has been working with Village administrator and ODOT regarding maintenance of historic street markers. Original markers are made of concrete and originally installed during the Depression. Several of the original concrete markers are now missing, or are in need of repair. Newer street markers are now made of wood. Preliminary discussions with ODOT have indicated concrete markers are no longer allowed due to safety concerns. Toomas plans to continue to follow up with ODOT to see if any exceptions applicable due to historic nature of the original markers. Perhaps they may be grandfathered in under prior highway standards? Existing concrete markers could be repainted, but once completely removed, even if just for maintenance, they cannot be put back in place under new regulations. Other wooden markers in the village have some minor wear and tear as well and could use repainting or touch up. Members of the DMRC have expressed willingness to assist with repairs for all street markers.
2. Toomas is continuing to work on a write up of historic points of interest along the Buckeye Trail in Mantua. Also discussion for pursuing the placement of a plaque to mark the Indian mound along Canada road. Toomas will make further inquiries into feasibility.

New Business

1. Clark attended a meeting of Aurora's Landmarks Commission on 2/27/20 and shared his experience. A resident of Aurora's historic district submitted an application to make alterations to an old outbuilding that currently serves as a car garage. Specifically, the applicant wanted to replace the existing carriage style, two-door garage with a larger single garage door. Aurora's commission had reservations with the quality and completeness of the applicant's application, but ultimately voted to approve their application by a 3 to 2 vote. Their commission also discussed their long-term master plan for the historic district. Currently there is only a side walk on one side of the road, and there are plans to add a sidewalk on the other side, as well as install

lampposts. Aurora is also discussing future property tax incentives to encourage their residents to become part of their historic district.

2. Clark mentioned the Ohio Local History Alliance holds regional conferences every spring, and a State conference every fall. Conferences were canceled this year due to the pandemic, but the Commission can perhaps keep in mind to possibly have some members attend next year.
3. Discussion was made to consider establishing an inventory of historic properties located within the Village. Once established, the Commission could consider a letter writing campaign to the property holders to gauge their interest in registering their home. Toomas will review the matter with the Village Council and see if a similar list of properties is already available, perhaps showing the property owner name, and date the homes were first built, etc. Emily will also review the matter with Chris Spencer of Crestwood Schools to see if her students can also assist with the undertaking.

Nick made a motion to adjourn. Toomas seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 11:01 am.

Next meeting to be held November 14th in Village Council chambers.