

MINUTES OF MEETING
CITY OF HOUGHTON PLANNING COMMISSION
MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.
By remote participation in accordance with Public Act 254 of 2020.

PRESENT: Bill Leder, Michele Jarvie-Eggart, Kristine Bradof, Jennifer Julien

Also present: Clerk Ann Vollrath, Tom Merz, John Norkol, Kristine Weidner, Garrett Neese, Sharon Levine, Cheryl Kiley, Alan Kiley, Megan Corrigan, Jeffrey Heinquinet, Craig Waddell, Grant Dossetto, David Bach, Frank Fiala, and other members of the community.

OPPORTUNITY
FOR PUBLIC
TO ADDRESS:

No one addressed the Committee.

MEETING:

A motion was made by Jarvie-Eggart and seconded by Julien to appoint Bill Leder as Chairperson.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Julien and seconded by Bradof to appoint Michele Jarvie-Eggart as Vice Chairperson.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion carried

A motion was made by Julien and seconded by Jarvie-Eggart to appoint Kristine Bradof as Secretary.

Yes: All

No: None

Motion carried

REPORT SUBMITTED BY BILL LEDER TO BE PRESENTED TO PLANNING
COMMISSION:

The Committee decided to meet on March 29 and then the first and third Mondays each month beginning with April. Meetings will begin at 1:00 pm.

The Committee discussed the proposal for a Charrette Ready-Workshop dated January 7, 2021, prepared by the National Charrette Institute, Michigan State University. This proposal was previously provided to all Commission members. The overall Charrette System is described here: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/nci/nci-charrette-system/>

The Charrette-Ready Workshop, intended as the first step, would focus on a plan for the Houghton Downtown, including the Big Deck. It was the Committee's opinion that the Charrette-Ready Workshop would be a very useful way to identify issues and build mutual understanding through engaging a group of citizens and City of Houghton officials. Even if some methodology other than a full charrette itself is later employed to develop a plan for Downtown, it is believed the Charrette-Ready Workshop will add value to the overall process.

Because the proposed Charrette-Ready Workshop would include members of the public, the Committee decided not to add citizens to the Master Plan Committee at this time, pending a final decision on the Workshop by the Planning Commission and Council.

The Committee requests a Community Survey concerning Chapters 10 (Downtown) and 13 (Zoning Plan and Future Land Use) be conducted following the Charrette-Ready Workshop in the same manner as the previous Community Survey. The Michigan Tech College of Business would design and, in collaboration with City staff, conduct the survey as before.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Kristine Bradof, Secretary