

City of Grand Haven
Historic Conservation District Commission
Special Meeting
Wednesday, June 4, 2025 at 5:00 PM
Grand Haven City Hall
Council Chambers
519 Washington Ave.
Grand Haven, MI 49417

Call to order: Chair Chad Fisk at 5:00 PM

Roll call of members present: Chair Chad Fisk, Secretary Linda Rosema, Members Erik Bye, Patrick Qua, Robyn Vandenberg and Amy Lalick-Prinzi

Pre-excused member: Member Nina Bryhn

Others present: City Planner Brian Urquhart and City Manager Ashley Latsch

- 1) General Business Call to the Viewing Audience (allowed 3 minutes) Brian Urquhart said he appreciated everyone for getting together for this project on such short notice.
- 2) Planning Commission Site Plan Reviews (233 Washington Ave. preliminary development plan)
 - a. Introductions were made of the Historical Conservation District Commission members and the Hospitality Team from 6PM Hospitality and Partner BDR who plan to build a Marriott Residence Inn. Also present was Grace Smith, a Historical Preservation Architect.
 - b. The preliminary development plan was reviewed.
 - c. Chair Chad Fisk shared concerns about the preservation of the façade of the old bank, esthetics of the ground floor activation to our Main Street Guidelines and the roof typology.
 - d. We would like to see more front entrances, lower windows and possibly a restaurant that would be open to the public to pull traffic into the building. Other suggestions were made of businesses or shops that could provide more activation with the public.
 - e. Chair Chad Fisk provided an example of a Marriott Residence Inn in Portsmouth, NH that would be better suited to Grand Haven in design and active ground floor frontage.
 - f. Chair Chad Fisk reported that the Tri-Cities Museum stated that the Old Grand Haven Bank Building is a historically significant building and a contributing building to the Historic District which is in the National Registry, even though it is not a Landmark Building.

- g. Historical Preservation Architect, Grace Smith stated multiple reasons that the old bank is no longer historically significant because of renovations over the years and is good reason for it to be demolished.
 - h. HCDC members stated that we as a group feel it is our job to save as much of the old bank and façade as possible, that it is an important part of our downtown and a contributing building to our Historic District. We would like to honor the old bank and compliment it with a new building.
 - i. We will write a letter to City Council and the Planning Commission stating our concerns to honor the old bank building and compliment it with a new building that is similar in materials to existing historic buildings.
- 3) Second Business Call to the Viewing Audience (allowed 3 minutes) No one spoke.
- 4) The meeting was adjourned by Chair Chad Fisk at 6:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Rosema
Secretary