



**City of La Porte Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, December 20, 2022 at 5:30 PM**

**City Hall, Council Chambers, 801 Michigan Avenue**

A meeting of the City of La Porte Historic Preservation Commission ("Commission") was held at City Hall Council Chambers, 801 Michigan Avenue, La Porte, IN, 46350 on Tuesday, December 20, 2022 at 5:30 P.M. ("Local Time"), pursuant to notice duly given in accordance with the rules of the Commission and the Indiana Open Door Law.

This meeting was called to order at 5:34 PM by Dr. Anna Weissman, President.

The board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

On call of the roll, the members of the Commission were shown to be present or absent as follows:

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dr. Anna Weissman, Ms. Barbara Krieg, Mr. Bruce Johnson, Ms. Kelsey Gushrowski, and Ms. Cassie Holmquest (via FaceTime).

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Ms. Fonda Owens and Ms. Jo Happel.

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Mr. David Heinold, Ms. Deb Parcell and City Councilwoman Laura Konieczny.

**MINUTES:** Bruce Johnson made a motion to **approve the November 15, 2022 regular meeting minutes** and the motion was seconded by Kelsey Gushrowski. The motion passed (5-0).

**CLAIMS:** None.

**HEARING OF VISITORS:** None.

**COA(s):** None.

**DEMOLITION REPORT:** None.

**LETTERS OF SUPPORT:** None.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** None.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. Usage of funds update - David reported that Community Development & Planning purchased 320 Forever stamps at a price of \$192 with regard to the board's request at the meeting last month. He further mentioned that the tax-based appropriation account for 2022 has \$6.50 remaining after the expense for stamps.

## SUBCOMMITTEES PROGRESS REPORTS

- A. Events and Outreach – Cassie reported that the subcommittee is working on plans for the spring workshop, education presentation at the realtors luncheon event, and a meet and greet event for designated homeowners. Deb reported that progress is being made on getting a date set for a possible February Masonry Repair Workshop in the basement at 211 Rose Street. Deb explained that a mason has shown interest in conducting the workshop, but the board would need to set a date to get it on their calendar. Kelsey made a motion to **approve** hosting the Masonry Workshop and payment to the masonry teacher in the amount of \$150. The motion was seconded by Anna. The motion passed (5-0). There was discussion about possibly hosting the workshop on either February 11<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 11:30 am. Deb will send the board an email update on the workshop date confirmation.

Laura mentioned that the board should reach out to Iris Muccigrosso to organize the education presentation to the LaPorte County Association of Realtors.

Barbara mentioned that Fonda contacted Charity Hlavsa, organizer for the La Porte Small Business Coalition, about the Christmas window idea. This is a possibility to look at planning with the Library and Small Business Coalition for next year. She mentioned that she will potentially work with Jo and Fonda on organizing a summer home walk for later next year. Kelsey mentioned that they could possibly do some kind of easter egg hunt style event for businesses during Halloween.

Cassie provided an update about a possible meet and greet for designated homeowners in May since that is Preservation Month. No dates were provided by the board on this event idea.

- B. Coloring Books – Bruce reported that the Museum would like to purchase 150 coloring books at \$3.50 per coloring book from the HPC. There was consensus on the board to charge \$3.50 per coloring book. The board will get an invoice from the Clerk-Treasurer for 150 coloring books at \$3.50 per coloring book to the Museum.

Bruce provided an overview for the cover of the booklet from discussions with Jo. The board discussed adding City of La Porte HPC to the front cover of the booklet. The board further discussed possible changes to the back cover for including coloring book sponsors. Bruce explained the timeline for the coloring book for fundraising in May from sponsors and print 500 coloring books in June for delivery to the schools by the start of the school year in August. Bruce and Anna will work on setting up an inventory of coloring books in the HPC SharePoint.

- C. Designated Homes Compliance – Barbara provided an update that she is working on writing a letter to designated homeowners as well as a letter to all property owners in a national register historic district.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Barbara asked for an update on the Downtown Design Standards Review Committee. David explained that he can provide an annual report to the board for all the projects that have been reviewed through the Downtown Design Standards.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Barbara mentioned that the City of La Porte Historic Districts Map on the HPC webpage is hard to tell where the local historic districts are located. David provided an update that the current map was just to show the location of the local historic districts on an aerial map. He continued to explain that he can work on making the historic districts map more clear for the viewers.

Laura left the meeting at 6:25 pm.

Anna mentioned that she is working with the Mayor to draft a letter from the Mayor and a historic homeowners guide to locally designated homeowners.

Deb will send a sample of what other communities are doing through the Historic Preservation Commissions.

Anna mentioned that there is a possibility for the board to organize a historic signage grant.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None.

There being no further business, Ms. Barbara Krieg made a motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Mr. Bruce Johnson. The motion passed unanimously (5-0). The meeting adjourned at 6:34 PM.



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Historic Preservation Commission President



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Attest