



La Porte Historic Preservation Commission

801 Michigan Avenue

La Porte, Indiana 46350

219-362-8260

CITY OF LA PORTE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 20, 2020

5:30 P.M.

Virtual Zoom Meeting

A meeting of the City of La Porte Historic Preservation Commission (“Commission”) was held virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, October 20, 2020 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 P.M. by Ms. Ela Bilderback, President

Ms. Bilderback led 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: Ms. Ela Bilderback, Ms. Joann Gorecki, Mr. Peter Steele, and Ms. Dottie Rosenbaum.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ms. Cathy Eldridge, Mr. Ron McAtee, and one vacancy.

GUESTS PRESENT: Ms. Grace Roman, CDP Admin Assistant and Ms. Deb Parcell, Indiana Landmarks.

MINUTES: Mr. Peter Steele moved to approve the September 15, 2020 minutes as presented. Ms. Joann Gorecki seconded the motion. The motion carried.

CLAIMS: None.

HEARING OF VISITORS: None.

COA(s): None.

DEMOLITION REPORT: None.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT: None.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Ms. Ela Bilderback stated that the Commission’s current balance is \$1,262.14, this was confirmed by Ms. Grace Roman. This balance was reported on the statement for June 27, 2020 through September 25, 2020. Ms. Dottie Rosenbaum moved to accept

the treasurer's report, Ms. Joann Gorecki seconded the motion. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Homeowner Outreach: Ms. Ela Bilderback informed the Commission she had delivered the homeowner outreach letters to Mr. Peter Steele. Mr. Steele updated the Commission that he is developing a map of potential homes to give outreach letters to and will start delivering letters once the map is completed.

1202 Indiana Ave. COA Application Follow Up: Ms. Ela Bilderback asked if any of the board members or anyone from the city has heard anything more from the homeowners who submitted a COA application at the last meeting for 1202 Indiana Ave. Ms. Grace Roman stated that the city has not heard anything further from the homeowners. Ms. Bilderback and Ms. Dottie Rosenbaum also stated that they have not noticed any further work being done on the exterior of the home. The decision that was made at last month's meeting regarding the COA application for 1202 Indiana Ave. was summarized and re-discussed by the Commission.

NEW BUSINESS:

HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) work at 1106 Michigan Ave: The building located at 1106 Michigan Ave. was described for the Commission by Ms. Ela Bilderback and Ms. Dottie Rosenbaum. Ms. Deb Parcell informed the Commission that she would be responding to the letter on behalf of Indiana Landmarks who was also listed as a consulting party. Ms. Parcell informed the Commission that they could respond to the letter themselves or she could include the Commission in her response to the letter. The Commission agreed to have Ms. Parcell include the Commission in her response to the letter regarding the Section 106 review at 1106 Michigan Ave.

Home Demolitions for County Library: Mr. Peter Steele informed the Commission that additional properties associated with the new construction of the county library are schedule for demolition. Ms. Dottie Rosenbaum stated that PEP is currently trying to save the home located at 805 Harrison St., but the homes at 1008, 1010, and 1012 Maple Ave. are also scheduled for demolition. Mr. Steele noted that there is not much the Commission can do to save these homes but wanted to state he feels demolitions for the project are getting carried away. The Commission agreed with Mr. Steele's statement. Mr. Steele informed the Commission that if they agreed with his statement that the Commission should let the Mayor, City Councilmen, as well as the County know that they feel this project has gotten carried away. Ms. Rosenbaum also stated she spoke with the City Planner, Tom Casey, and that he would check if any demolition permits had been acquired for any of these properties.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Ms. Dottie Rosenbaum informed the Commission that the current list of historically designated properties on the City's website has a few errors. Ms. Rosenbaum stated that Ms. Grace Roman is working on updating this list.

Ms. Deb Parcell informed the Commission that she received

another section 106 review for a railroad overpass on Tipton St. She would like the Commission to review this request and let her know if they have any comments that she can include in her response on behalf of Indiana Landmarks.

Ms. Parcell also informed the Commission that Todd Zeiger is finalizing the Indiana Landmarks design guidelines and supporting educational materials. Ms. Parcell is looking for some information from communities to include in the guidelines. Ms. Grace Roman stated that she'd be able to provide this information and related materials to Ms. Parcell. Ms. Parcell also discussed the possibility of applying a COA application fee and creating a new COA application and staff report form. Ms. Parcell asked the Commission to send her their comments. She hopes to have everything related to the new design guidelines ready for the November meeting and potentially vote on the guidelines at the December meeting so they can be implemented in January.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Ms. Ela Bilderback asked Ms. Grace Roman if there were any updates on carriage rides for the Monroe Market event. Ms. Roman stated she has not yet reached out to her contact for the carriage rides but would be doing so before the end of the week and would let the Commission know what she finds out.

There being no further business, Mr. Dottie Rosenbaum moved to adjourn the meeting; Ms. Joann Gorecki seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:17 PM.

Ela Bilderback, President

Ron McAtee, Secretary