



City of La Porte Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 15, 2025 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, July 15, 2025 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 5:30 PM by Sallie LaRocco, Chair.

The board recited the pledge of allegiance along with individuals in attendance.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sallie LaRocco, Fonda Owens, Bruce Johnson, and Peter Steele.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Christa Hurley-King.

GUESTS PRESENT: David Heinold, Drew Buchanan, and Deb Parcell.

MINUTES: Tabled until next meeting due to no quorum present.

CORRESPONDENCE REPORTS (CLAIMS, COAs, Demolition Reports): None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Sunflower Fair booth – tabled until next month.
- B. Bruce reported that he is working on the sponsor list for the coloring books and needs help with contacting businesses. The average donation is \$100.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. HPC Educational Workshop Planning – Deb mentioned that they are working on a workshop in South Bend this September on masonry repairs.
- B. Section 106 Review Correspondence for Housing Opportunities, Inc. Project at 205 Rumely Street (Coca-Cola Bottling Company Building) Sallie explained that Housing Opportunities submitted a request for review on a proposed project to demolish the building at 205 Rumely Street and replace with new construction for apartment units and supportive services provided by Housing Opportunities. Fonda mentioned that the board should make a recommendation to preserve the historical elements in the building within the new development.

Peter mentioned that if they plan to build a new building, it should look more residential in nature similar to the surrounding homes in the neighborhood. The board continued discussion on the appropriateness of the request and asked City staff to email the information out to the full board so that everyone has a chance to review the proposal before submitting a response letter.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. At-risk properties discussion – Sallie explained that she would like the board to come up with a few properties that should be on the top five at-risk properties and bring them to the next meeting.
- B. HPC Educational Session – Deb mentioned that she will have a brand new educational presentation for the board next month.

HEARING OF VISITORS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Peter Steele to adjourn and the motion was seconded by Fonda Owens. The meeting adjourned at 6:11 PM.



Historic Preservation Commission Chair

Attest