



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

**Tuesday, August 15, 2023 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, August 15, 2023 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.

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, Jeanne Rafaj, Cassandra Redeagle, Maggie Caviston, and Bruce Johnson (Advisory Member).

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jo Happel.

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Todd Zeiger, Laura Konieczny, Peter Steele, and Mark Kurth.

**MINUTES:** Jeanne Rafaj made a motion to **approve the July 18, 2023 meeting minutes** and the motion was seconded by Cassandra Redeagle. The motion passed 6-0.

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

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Bruce reported that the coloring books have been delivered to the schools for the year.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Sunflower Fair Booth Ideas – Sallie and Fonda reported that they are gathering the photobooth with a green screen and costumes for booth visitors.
- B. Homeowner Education Workshop #2 Planning – Todd mentioned that Deb will provide an update of the next homeowner education workshop for plaster repair at the next meeting.
- C. Section 106 Review Correspondence for Housing Opportunities, Inc. Adaptive Reuse Project at 205 Rumely Street (Coca-Cola Bottling Company Building) – David explained the request for Section 106 Review Correspondence on the adaptive reuse project at 205 Rumely Street. David explained the recommendation for the adaptive reuse project to have no impact on historic buildings or resources in the immediate vicinity.

Maggie Caviston made a motion to **concur with the Section 106 Review Correspondence Letter for Housing Opportunities, Inc. Adaptive Reuse Project at 205 Rumely Street** and the motion was seconded by Jeanne Rafaj. The motion passed 6-0.

- D. Section 106 Review Correspondence for Park Street Reconstruction project – David explained the request for Section 106 Review Correspondence for the Park Street Reconstruction project. David explained the recommendation for the street reconstruction project to have no impact on historic buildings or resources in the immediate vicinity. Fonda Owens made a motion to **concur with the Section 106 Review Correspondence Letter for Park Street Reconstruction project** and the motion was seconded by Jeanne Rafaj. The motion passed 6-0.

**HEARING OF VISITORS:** Aurelio Melgoza, 204 North Street, identified himself as the owner of the former Maple School Building and discussed his plans for renovating the building into a single family home. He also expressed concerns about the proposed use of the building at 205 Rumely Street that had previously been approved to allow multifamily apartment units and support services for disabled individuals. Sallie explained the process for Section 106 Review that only includes review of the adaptive reuse project for the building at 205 Rumely Street and the potential for impact on historic properties in the immediate vicinity. Sallie continued to mention that the Historic Preservation Commission does not have any authority over the proposed use of the property at 205 Rumely Street. Maggie mentioned that she appreciates the concerns presented and offered a suggestion for a future historic rehab educational workshop to be held at one of the former school buildings.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The board decided to reschedule the next Historic Preservation Commission meeting for next month will be held on Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 in City Hall Council Chambers.

There being no further discussion, Maggie Caviston made a motion to **adjourn the meeting** and the motion was seconded by Jeanne Rafaj. The meeting adjourned at 6:13 PM.

  
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Historic Preservation Commission Chair

  
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Attest