



<b>City of La Porte Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes</b>
<b>Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 5:30 PM</b>
<b>City Hall, Council Chambers, 801 Michigan Avenue</b>

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, September 26, 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, and Maggie Caviston

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Cassandra Redeagle, Jo Happel, and Bruce Johnson (Advisory Member)

**GUESTS PRESENT:** David Heinold, Deb Parcell, Laura Konieczny, Kyle Anthony-Petter, and Mark Kurth

**MINUTES:** Maggie Caviston made a motion to **approve the August 15, 2023 meeting minutes** and the motion was seconded by Fonda Owens. The motion passed 4-0.

**CORRESPONDENCE REPORTS (CLAIMS, COAs, Demolition Reports):**

- A. 1302 Jackson Street – Paint Exterior Door (**Staff Approval**)  
David reported that City Staff received a COA application for painting an exterior door at 1302 Jackson Street. Deb explained that this COA was staff approved since the color matched the pre-approved paint colors for exterior doors.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** None.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Jeanne reported that 13 coloring books were sold at the Sunflower Fair. Sallie reported that there was good attendance at the Sunflower Fair booth and that three homeowner contacts were made for possible designation next year. Sallie also mentioned that there were about 15-20 new contacts made including the 3 seeking local designations. Sallie explained that there appears to be a common misunderstanding about different designations between local and national historic districts.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Homeowner Education Workshop #2 Planning – There was discussion about options for the next homeowner education workshop. Deb reported that she is working on getting another person for plaster class. Maggie mentioned that an

alternative to the plaster class could be a pick a color historic paints and a how-to prep painting in the spring next year. Mark Kurth offered a suggestion to the board members discussion that one of the Preserve Historic La Porte members may be able to host a how-to decorative plaster. There was additional discussion amongst the board about the planning for a decorative plaster class. Jeanne Rafaj made a motion to **host a decorative plaster class as the next education workshop** and the motion was seconded by Fonda Owens. The motion passed 4-0.

- B. Student Led Project – Sallie explained a possible project for student research related to how to designate a local property. Maggie mentioned a possible project with the green architecture class at La Porte Middle School. There was additional discussion amongst the board members about the student led research project for how to designate a local property. Sallie will coordinate with Jeremy Ruff at the high school on this project and report back to the board.

**HEARING OF VISITORS:** Mark Kurth mentioned a request for volunteers and encouraged attendance at the upcoming candlelight tour organized by Preserve Historic La Porte.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Fonda mentioned that the board will need to look at the budget for next year in the restricted account.

Jeanne requested that plaques for designated properties be placed on the October HPC meeting agenda. Jeanne mentioned that she will be donating a pop up tent to the HPC board for use.

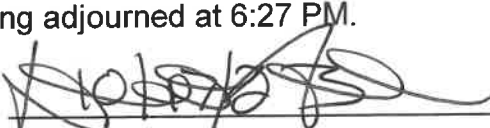
David explained that 1012 Monroe Street has not submitted a COA application for painting the exterior of the home after talking with the homeowner about the project at the house. The board discussed the COA process and enforcement on violations of the design guidelines. Jeanne will look into how many plaques are up on houses and which do not have plaques for designations.

The board discussed sending a letter to violations that do work without a COA approval. Maggie Caviston made a motion to **approve sending a letter to 1012 Monroe Street for doing work without COA approval** and the motion was seconded by Jeanne Rafaj. The motion passed 4-0.

Deb mentioned that the Indiana Landmarks Holiday Open House will be held on October 2<sup>nd</sup> in the evening and encouraged members to attend.

There being no further discussion, Jeanne Rafaj made a motion to **adjourn the meeting** and the motion was seconded by Maggie Caviston. The meeting adjourned at 6:27 PM.

  
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Historic Preservation Commission Chair

  
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Attest