



City of La Porte Historic Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 21, 2026 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 21, 2026 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: Fonda Owens, Bruce Johnson, Mitchell Espinosa, Laura Riffel, Peter Steele, Christa Hurley-King, and Rachelle McCauley.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

GUESTS PRESENT: David Heinold.

MINUTES: A motion was made to **approve the May 19, 2026 meeting minutes** by Fonda Owens and the motion was seconded by Laura Riffel. The motion passed 7-0.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Otocast app historical site selection – Mitchell explained that we have 5 recordings done and working on the mural buildings. The board asked David to consult with the Communications Director on the promotion of the app download on the website and newsletter.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Sunflower Fair – Christa is organizing the booth setup and looking for volunteers to help with the booth during the event. Peter Steele made a motion to **allow \$100 for Sunflower Fair budget** and the motion was seconded by Mitchell Espinosa. The motion passed 7-0.

B. Otocast app – This item was discussed under committee reports.

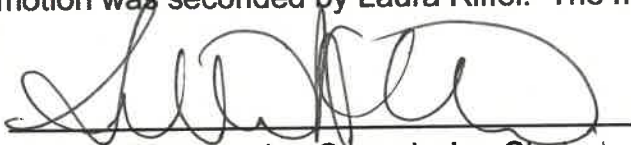
- C. Downtown signage – Sallie mentioned that Preserve Historic LaPorte is doing signs about buildings downtown and asking HPC to recommend the Street Department place signs. Sallie mentioned that HPC will organize the fundraising effort for the signs. David mentioned that the board will need to consult with the Business Improvement District and Board of Public Works and Safety for the placement of any new signage in the downtown district.
- D. Coloring book fundraising – Bruce reported that he has the sponsor list together and has sent the schools thank you letters for sending the sponsors letters. Bruce will provide David with the sponsor list so we can get the invoices prepared and sent to the sponsors for this fall.
- E. Holiday train Christmas tree lot – Sallie mentioned that she is working on steps to setup a potential new event as part of the holiday train in Downtown La Porte.

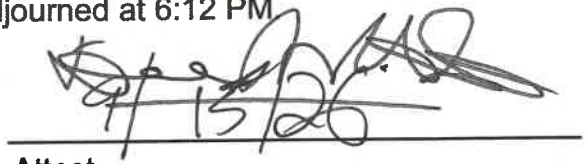
HEARING OF VISITORS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Sallie mentioned that Preserve Historic LaPorte Progressive Dinner is being held this Sunday, July 26 from 5-8 pm and to get your RSVP in if you plan to attend.

David explained that window replacement was approved for 1004 Lincolnway as part of the Downtown Design Review process.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Peter Steele to adjourn and the motion was seconded by Laura Riffel. The meeting adjourned at 6:12 PM


Historic Preservation Commission Chair


Attest