



PLANNING DEPARTMENT
CITY OF BOWLING GREEN

MINUTES: HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC)
Meeting of April 26, 2022
City of Bowling Green Administrative Services Building
304 North Church Street, Bowling Green, Ohio 43402

Members Present: John Sampen, Chris Mowen, Christina Tracy, Wil Roudebush

Members Absent: None

Staff Member Present: Heather Saylor

A Certificate of Appreciation for former HPC member Les Barber, signed by Mayor Mike Aspacher, was read by HPC President John Sampen.

AGENDA ITEM #2: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the March 22, 2022 meeting were approved unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #3: ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- A. Election of Secretary – Roudebush volunteered to be Secretary for the meeting.
- B. May meeting date – Next HPC meeting set for 4:00 p.m. on May 24, 2022.
- C. HPC “Friends & Advisors” – The HPC should be thinking of projects for the “Friends & Advisors.”

Plaques and kiosks were discussed. Saylor mentioned the possibility of kiosks vs. plaques. Downtown Perrysburg kiosks can serve as examples. Mowen mentioned the plaque on South Main Street as an example. BG Foundation Grants should be considered for possible funding. Saylor suggested that the use of kiosks and plaques could be phased.

Historic Districts were discussed. HPC to submit ideas to Sampen. The HPC not ready for conducting building inventories.

Bellefontaine, OH was mentioned as a good historic preservation example. Small Nation is a company that has led the redevelopment of downtown Bellefontaine, which has been very successful and had national attention on their effort to help revitalize downtowns in smaller cities. Historic preservation has been a part of their efforts, including preserving buildings.

Tracy mentioned wayfinding signs. These could be funded by local businesses. Sign aesthetics, upkeep and maintenance should be considered.



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The HPC should carefully research recommended sites and should also work with the City in choosing the appropriate signage and its physical placement. Sampen suggested finding “Friends & Advisors” that would be behind the program and help to research properties. He also suggested inviting someone from Visit BG to an HPC meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #4: MAY – PRESERVATION MONTH

- A. Downtown Scavenger Hunt – Saylor is working on making copies of the Scavenger Hunt information document for dissemination at various locations. Entries are due by 5/31/2022, with Scavenger Hunt location answers to be posted the next day.
- B. Walking Tour (Wood County District Public Library) – The Walking Tour is to be conducted June 11, 2022. Reservations can be made at the Wood County District Public Library.
- C. Building Highlights (Plan and Announcement for Monthly Building Nominations) – A press release will be made with information on the Scavenger Hunt and a building nomination form.

AGENDA ITEM #5: LOCAL BUILDING/DISTRICT DESIGNATIONS

- A. City of Bowling Green Police Building & Needle Hall – The BG Planning Commission will review the HPC recommendation to approve the buildings as historically significant.
- B. County Courthouse – The county commissioners will be signing the MOU soon.
- C. University Hall (at Bowling Green State University) – Sampen received the signed MOU. He is still awaiting response to recognize University Hall as historically significant to the Bowling Green State University and the City of Bowling Green.
- D. Boom Town District (Planning and Listing of Advantages) – The HPC should continue thinking about historic districts. Mowen stated that anyone can nominate their property for historic recognition.

AGENDA ITEM #6: GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

- A. CLG Grant (Planning) – Grant applications are due in February. HPC members should bring CLG grant ideas to the June HPC meeting for the HPC to decide on how grant money would be used. Any funds, to be matched by the city of BG, must be included in the city of BG annual funding budget.

HPC should make a list of potential buildings and historic sites that could be recognized as historically significant. Submit buildings and historic sites to Sampen. Think about how to best represent the historic building or site by kiosk or plaque.



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AGENDA ITEM #7: PUBLIC RELATIONS AND EDUCATION PROJECTS

- A. "Ohio Opens Doors" – Mowen talked about Heritage Ohio being in September. The Wood County District Public Library's Carter House could be considered for a tour during Heritage Ohio. Sampen will discuss this with Marnie, local history librarian, at the Wood County District Public Library.
- B. How to Research Your House Workshop with Preserve Toledo and Wood County District Public Library – The workshop is planned for July. Mowen will have more information for the May HPC meeting.
- C. Coffee with a Preservationist – Mowen had this idea as a way for BG residents to get more information on historic preservation in BG. Tracy suggested the Farmer's Market as a location for the event(s). Sampen suggested this being brainstormed more.
- D. "Take a Hike" Walking Tours – Tracy was not able to meet with the Cleveland group about their walking tours yet.

Mowen mentioned the possibility of having reenactors at various locations to present a history about specific historic buildings or historic sites.

HPC should consider creating forums to meet with BG residents to discuss the history of BG. It was suggested that the forums could possibly be videoed by BGSU students.

- E. Workshop on Historic Tax Credits – Mowen stated that this would make a good winter workshop. Saylor stated that several incentive options could be presented and coordinated with BG Economic Development.

AGENDA ITEM #8: LOBBY VISITATION

Geoffrey Howes introduced himself as an incoming HPC member with a general interest in historic preservation. He has considerable experience as a literary translator of German – English. He mentioned a German newspaper that was printed in BG in the 1880s. The newspaper contains much information on the formulative years of BG. Current HPC members welcomed him to the HPC.

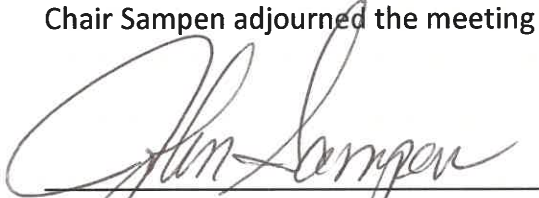
Rose Drain requested that the HPC share information with her. She would appreciate any information that would help educate her about historic preservation. She asked Saylor about zoning changes. Saylor stated that the Historic Preservation ordinance remains the same. According to Saylor, information is available on the Zoning page with updates.

AGENDA ITEM #9: ADJOURNMENT




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Chair Sampen adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m.



John Sampen, Chair



Wilfred Roudebush, Secretary for
April 26, 2022 meeting