

Minutes
West Lafayette Historic Preservation Commission
Morton Community Center
222 N. Chauncey Avenue
West Lafayette, IN 47906
May 10, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chris Kulesza, President, who presided.

Present: Peter Bunder, Kelly Busch, Susan Curtis, Chris Kulesza, Dale Dixon, Arnold Sweet, Kurt Wahl, Shelly Lowenberg-DeBoer

Absent: Erin Britton, Linda Martin, Jim Sondgeroth

Commissioner Curtis moved to accept the minutes of the April 12, 2016 Historic Preservation Commission meeting. Commissioner Sweet seconded. Approved unanimously.

President Kulesza introduced the new member of the Historic Preservation Commission, Shelly Lowenberg-DeBoer. She gave everyone a quick introduction about her history.

Bylaw Discussion

President Kulesza met with Eric Burns, the city attorney to discuss the bylaws and some amendments were made. Commissioner Busch questioned the language regarding Section 9 (Page 4) being removed after September, 2016. President Kulesza stated that this should be September 30, 2016. Kelly Busch states that this date refers to a specific district and as we go forward there might be additional districts added. She thinks we might need to be a little more specific regarding which district we're referring to. President Kulesza believes we should replace the expiration date with "Phase I districts."

Commissioner Curtis had a couple of questions regarding the ordinance as well. Section 3 regarding the Board of Review, it states the term of office should be 3 years. Does that mean after 3 years, the members go away? President Kulesza believes that once your term is expired you should be done, but you can be reappointed immediately after. Mr. Curtis clarified that once the Board is granted Certified Local Government status, the Commissioners will need to attend learning opportunities.

Further discussion was had regarding minor grammatical errors.

Kurt Wahl had a question regarding a vote of unanimous consent and a 2/3 vote. There are some things in the Bylaw's that are approved via unanimous consent, but some things require a formal vote. President Kulesza spoke regarding this. Mr. Wahl also spoke regarding staff approvals for the COA applications. President Kulesza stated that a Resolution hasn't been done to allow for staff approvals, but thinks we should get something like this started.

This was approved to go to Council for final vote.

Resolution re Staff COA Approval

President Kulesza moved that the Commission sends this issue to the COA to draft that Resolution to be sent to the Commission. Commissioner Busch seconded. Unanimous approval.

Staff Report

Nothing to Report from Kurt Wahl.

President Kulesza spoke regarding Mr. Poole's departure and questioned who would be looking at the COA's. Mr. Dixon stated that nothing will change on the front end regarding when they're applying for an application or permit. Other than that, things will come through Amanda or Mr. Dixon. Mr. Dixon plans to circle back with Engineering to make sure all his ducks are in a row with the application and work.

Commissioner Bunder questioned any work or application on Connolly Street. Commissioner Lowenberg-DeBoer stated she's hearing this will be a whole house demolition. Mr. Bunder asked her to keep an eye on this project. Mr. Poole wanted to approach the Redevelopment Commission about doing something with this property, but we aren't aware if he did. Mr. Dixon reached out to Tom Brooks, the RDC attorney to speak about this project and he stated that right now there isn't any money in this TIF to get anything done with this project. Mr. Bunder stated that he'd like to see this as a budget item for the 2017 budget so that it can be approved or denied by the Commission.

Commissioner Bunder spoke regarding the materials he sent via email regarding form based code overlay that is being ran through the system for the Centennial neighborhood in Lafayette. He went into detail regarding this coming into the Chauncey Village neighborhood.

Commissioner Sweet spoke regarding the spring down the road from his house and questioned what the City can do about saving it or making it an attraction. Commissioner Busch mentioned if it would be possible to bottle this and possibly make money. She suggested speaking with Eric Burns regarding this. There was discussion regarding getting the water tested to see if it is drinkable.

Working the booth at the Farmers Market was discussed.

Commissioner Sweet spoke regarding the pamphlet entitled "Take a Walk through Historic Lafayette." That was available at the Fowler house opening. The pamphlets were done by the Wabash Valley Trust.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Commissioner Bunder moved to adjourn. Commissioner Sweet seconded. Adjourned unanimously at 6:46.

Kelly Busch, Secretary