

**Columbus Historic Landmarks and Preservation Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, September 14, 2022  
Columbus Community Center  
161 North Dickason Boulevard**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ruth Hermanson at 4:00 p.m.

**Attendance:** Present Commissioners Altschwager, Ulrich, Hermanson, Gilbertson, Nichols and Elling; also Recreation Director Meyer and Council Liaison Gray for the City. Commissioner Kaland was absent and excused.

**Notice of open meeting:** Chair Hermanson noted that the meeting agenda had been posted and distributed per State Statutes.

**Citizen comments on agenda items:** Commissioner Altschwager noted that she has the large banners from the concert series and will be bringing them to the CHLPC office in City Hall for reference next year.

**Approve agenda:** Motion by Nichols, second by Gilbertson, to approve the agenda as posted. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approve minutes from the Regular Meeting August 10, 2022:** Motion by Nichols, second by Altschwager to approve the minutes as amended at the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**Treasurer's report:** Altschwager presented the report as of September 14, 2022.

- Susan Stare Auditorium Fund (CD)		\$18,558.14
- Water Tower Fund	253474	\$ 3,304.80
- Mary Poser/ Former Columbus Auditorium Corporation	2502700 (CD)	\$30,512.58
- RestHaven Improvement	255362	\$64,391.34
- Façade Improvement Fund	255707	\$ 130.12
- Columbus Pavilion ADA Accessibility Fund	250968	\$ 8,755.60
- CHLPC Account	187450	\$33,219.56

Motion by Gilbertson, second by Nichols, to accept the Treasurer's report as presented at the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**Review and take action on invoices/bills:**

Motion by Nichols, second by Gilbertson, to approve payment of \$2,200.00 from account 255362 to Design Coalition for RestHaven design work invoice dated August 20, 2022. Roll call vote approved 7-0.

**Council Liaison Report:** Council liaison Gray noted the following items:

- He spoke with Mayor Arnold and Administrator Ellefson regarding the Historic Preservation Ordinance status and possible work by the CHLPC on an updated draft. These officials and Alder Gray agreed that the CHLPC could work an updated draft and present that to the City Council for review and action. Chair Hermanson asked Commissioners Elling and Nichols to work on this and focus on clarifying enforcement responsibilities along with State Statute requirements.

- The 2023 City budget will be presented in draft form on September 20 to the City Council. The Council will have several meetings this fall before adoption in November.
- City Treasurer Brandon Bledsoe will be working with the coordination of future Certificates of Appropriateness and also staff for CHLPC with Recreation Director Meyer.
- The CDA will be reviewing America Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) funding applications on September 15 at 6:30 p.m. This recommendation will be forwarded to the Committee of Whole on September 20<sup>th</sup> for Council review.
- Commissioner Ulrich questioned whether she should be filing local landmark designation information on four landmark properties. Alder Gray requested that she wait for the updated Historic Preservation Ordinance completion before proceeding on any filings with Columbia County.
- An updated fee schedule for 2023 will also be on the September 20 COW agenda.

Staff Report: Recreation Director Meyers reported that the Council will vote to approve the purchase of blinds for the Pavilion at Fireman's Park on September 20, along with the recommendation on bathroom use considerations for the RestHaven bathroom fixture designs.

Update regarding the Pavilion Window Treatment Approval from City Council: Chair Hermanson noted that Recreation Director Meyer had just reported that this approval is on the September 20 Council agenda.

Update RestHaven ADA Improvement Project review, call for action and approve minutes: Chair Hermanson distributed draft minutes from August 18 for consideration at the October 12 CHLPC meeting. She presented draft exterior elevations dated August 10. Their next meeting is September 22.

Report from the Summer Concert Series committee: Several commissioners commented that they already have potential bands for 2023. Some residents asked to move the August concert one week earlier to avoid school activity conflicts. Commissioner Ulrich requested the Treasurer Altschwager prepare a report on the costs and revenues from the 2022 series for the October meeting.

Discussion and action on 2023 CHLPC budget request: Chair Hermanson noted that the initial budget presentation will occur on September 20. Future meetings will be noticed to the commissioner. The group clarified for Recreation Director Meyers that they did expect the \$1,500 in this year's budget for the watertower restoration to be designated and transferred, with an additional \$1,500 included in the 2023 budget to continue accruing funds for future work.

Review local landmarks designation process and any updates: Based on Alder Gray's recommendation, there will be no further action on this topic until a new Historic Preservation Ordinance is adopted by the City Council.

Report on the 2023 Calendar: Ulrich reported that the calendar will be delivered the first week of November.

Discussion and take action on street paver from 414 West Harrison Street. Recreation Director Meyers will provide a donation form for completion and work with Elling and the property owner to move the bricks to the Community Center basement for storage until their permanent installation is approved.

Discuss Old Hwy 73 steel Whitney Bridge: Chair Hermanson asked that this be set aside until the October CHLPC meeting.

Discussion on special meeting for orientation of new members related resources, documents and history of CHLPC. The group will meet on September 21 at 4:00 p.m. outside the City Clerk's office.

Discussion and action on any attendees for Wisconsin Historic Preservation webinars or Wisconsin Historic Preservation convention. Commissioner Ulrich reported that she has registered to attend in person. The conference is October 13/14 in Rothschild, Wisconsin.

Update on process of Columbus Community Development Authority for ARPA Funds project. Chair Hermanson reminded the group that the CDA will meet on September 15 to review applications and forward to the Council for final action.

Lanyards for members: Chair Hermanson will bring samples to the October meeting for review.

CHLPC Priority projects: Chair Hermanson discussed the potential projects for 2023 activities. She encouraged the members to be thinking about this for further discussion in October.

**Next Meeting date Wednesday, October 12, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.**

Motion by Nichols, second by Gilbertson, to adjourn at 5:20 p.m. Carried Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Henry J. Elling, CHLPC Secretary