

Columbus Historic Landmarks and Preservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 27, 2025
Columbus City Hall, 105 N Dickason Boulevard

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ruth Hermanson at 4:00 p.m. in the City Hall committee room.

Attendance: Commissioners Altschwager, Hermanson, Gilbertson, Nagle, Ulrich, Mayor Hammer and Elling. Dave Bennett was also present.

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

Approve agenda: Motion by Altschwager, second by Gilbertson, to approve the August 27 agenda as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Minutes of July 23, 2025: Motion by Hammer, second by Altschwager, to approve. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Report, Payment of Invoices and Bills: Motion by Gilbertson, second by Nagle to approve payment of

- \$245.00 to Hubbleton Brewery for the beverages at the August concert; payment from account #255362.
- Payment of \$96.19 to Commissioner Ulrich for envelopes, stamps and paper mailings for calendar subscription, from account #255362.
- The invoice for Events.com posting of Summer Concert Series would be presented to the City for payment from the CHLPC/Planning account.

Roll call vote carried unanimously.

2026 Budget request: The staff has included a request of \$5,000 in the 2026 city budget for use by the Commission. Potential activities include placards for 67 buildings in the Downtown Historic District; file cabinet for the historic preservation commission office, racking and shelving system for the office.

Rest Haven Project Presentation: The planning group will review proposals from several electricians for work and bring to the September meeting for review and possible recommendation to the City Administrator. Motion by Gilbertson, second by Nagle, to develop a bid sheet for the main door and electrical system improvements for consideration on September 24. Motion carried unanimously.

Summer Concert Series: The commissioners requested that this be on the September agenda for review of expenses and revenues.

Tourism Reimbursement Grant: The Commission reviewed the reimbursement parameters for the digital advertising activity and noted the invoice received from Events.com. It appears the information collected at the concerts will be helpful in validating additional application monies in 2026. The tourism grant includes up to \$750 in digital advertising expenses in 2025.

Partnership with Tourism Commission for distribution of historic tour books: Mr. Bennett asked whether the commissioners would be open to setting out the remaining historic tour books with an insert from the Tourism Commission. Motion by Gilbertson, second by Altschwager, to donate up to 300 books to the Tourism Commission for coordinated distribution.

Oddtoberfest Raffle Participation: Commissioner Gilbertson indicated that the Odd Fellows have asked if the CHLPC would be interested in selling 50/50 raffle tickets for one hour during the festival. Any proceeds from the one hour drawing would be split 50% to the winning ticket and 50% to the CHLPC. Motion by Hammer, second by Altschwager to participate. Motion carried unanimously.

Columbus Area Endowment Grant application: Commissioner Ulrich requested approval to apply for an additional \$6,000 to assist in the completion of the electrical system upgrade at the RestHaven. Motion by Hammer, second by Nagle to approve Commissioner Ulrich's application. Motion carried unanimously.

2025 Wine Walk Participation: The Chamber of Commerce has questioned whether the CHLPC would sponsor and host a site on the December event. Motion by Gilbertson, second by Altschwager to thank the Chamber for the offer but decline. Motion carried unanimously.

2026 Historic Calendar: Commissioner Ulrich noted that the solicitation for sponsorships had been mailed. Distribution of the calendars will be in November, 2025.

Report on Pavilion at Fireman's Park staircase replacement: Mr. Bennett reported that the City has contracted for replacement of both the north and south staircases. Work will be done in the fall of 2025 as reservation times allow.

Motion by Altschwager, second by Nagle to adjourn at 5:35 p.m. Carried Unanimously.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, September 24, 2025 at 4:00 p.m., back a City Hall.

Respectfully submitted, Henry J. Elling, CHLPC Secretary