

Columbus Historic Landmarks and Preservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 23, 2025
Rest Haven Building, 1049 Park Avenue

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ruth Hermanson at 4:00 p.m. in a very steamy and hot Rest Haven building.

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 Nagle, second by Hammer, to approve the July 23 agenda as presented. Motion carried 7-0.

Minutes of June 25, 2025: Motion by Gilbertson, second by Nagle, to approve. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: The commissioners noted the new agenda format and process. All potential agenda items should be presented to the Chair at least 10 days prior to the meeting. The Chair will then review the draft agenda with City staff prior to posting.

Payment of Invoices and Bills: Motion by Hammer, second by Nagle to approve payment of \$180.00 to Hubbleton Brewery for the beverages at the July 17 concert; payment 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.

Fundraising for Rest Haven: The Commission noted the current 2025 donation list.

Rest Haven Remodel Project Update: Chair Hermanson reported that the Design Coalition architect had replied to her inquiry regarding a modified plan set. The proposed cost was far above the \$1,000 she was authorized to accept. The group discussed the plan and spec set needed for potential bids. The subcommittee will meet again to review next steps.

Summer Concert Series: The commissioners noted the third and final concert for 2026 is set for August 14 and expected a large turnout for home-town talent Mark Croft and his trio.

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.

Potential application for Certified Local Government Grant from WSHS: After reviewing the grant criteria and response from the 2025 application, the commissioners agreed that they do not have a project to propose for 2026 in this funding source.

Potential 2026 projects list and Budget request: The commissioners identified three potential projects for 2026. (A) physical plaque placement on historic structures following designation. (B) preparation of an educational pamphlet for downtown historic district and preparation for eventual designation of local downtown historic district, and (c) preparation of a more general "What is CHLPC and historic preservation" for use throughout the City. They also discussed the need for an additional file cabinet for

information storage at City Hall. Motion by Nagle, second by Elling to identify an annual payment to the water tower maintenance fund of \$1,500 and potential \$1,000 in preparation of an educational pamphlet and commissioner training costs for 2026 budget. Motion carried unanimously.

Potential 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. They would propose to set out for free at various restaurants and businesses in the city. The commissioners were open to this idea and would like to see the flyer before the booklets are distributed.

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

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 at 4:00 p.m., back a City Hall.

Respectfully submitted, Henry J. Elling, CHLPC Secretary