

Minutes
Historic Preservation Commission
City of Kalamazoo



Wednesday, June 11thst, 2025

6:00 PM

City Commission Chambers at City Hall – 241 West South Street

A. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Called to order at 6:00pm.

B. ADOPTION OF FORMAL AGENDA

Edison approved
Vail 2nd

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Paduk in H start new paragraph. Hibbard Commissioner Comments Dusti with I not Y. F2 Hibbard had our heads needs to be wrapped our hands around this. Edison food sovereignty coordinator. Wyatt with Gun Lake tribe from the Little River Band. Mount Home cemeteries should be Mountain Home.
Vail motion to approve as amended .
Harris 2nd.

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS

O'Connor glad the budget has been worked out and I understand how its going to work. I think it also calls for a group that we brought together last year to work on whether or not we would have gift program and how we would figure that out to put together some sort of budget so we are not running around at the last minute. Need to have a regular planning calendar for the KHPC. That will help guide us budget discussions. Question about encouraging communitywide engagement discussion not able to exactly understand whats going on. I think I missed a meeting, but I see that's F2 so it will be discussed later. I may be working with an old work plan for 2025 mine at the top still says diversity, inclusion and whatever. That hasn't been amended and replaced with this or whatever this comes with and should be for clarity.

E. REPORTS

1. Financial Report
Pena read report

2. O'Connor Fund Report
Pena looks like a bigger gap then usual. Not a substantial amount of money \$500.00 down for the OKN one and \$90.00 down from the other. We will bounce back. Hibbard we are meeting tomorrow about the grants for the year are we going to trust the applicants schedules then request to move the money two months before they their expected end date? Pena we can wait as long as we want

no stipulation written that I am aware of. We could wait even until the four month mark. Hibbard it's a matter of filtering it through the new City account? Pena yes. O'Connor we should wait until the job has been approved, assuming that we make a grant. The money is still available between 15 and 30 days from the request day.

3. City Hall Designation Effort

O'Connor submitted report on what happened and still needs to happen. Hibbard there was an updated noted on 5/27. Akina says the subcommittee and former KHPC member met with the City Commissioner Chris Pradle was it because his schedule was open? Luis mentioned there was a City Commissioner liaison for different committees within the city it that connected to that to? Pena I don't think we have one anymore at one point there probably was a direct liaison.

4. Cemetery Cleaning Report

Morton I joined with Garys group on the 31st. Stryker does quite a bit with cleaning Veterans stones. They were at Riverside and several stones were raised that were sunk. He has a cleaning on the 14th working on pioneer stones that's at 9:30 at Mountain Home. Evan has had some input on book we are working on. Will talk to Gary about that as well. The JC's are doing a cemetery tour in the fall. They do Kalamazoo Ghost Tours. Gary is looking into doing an interactive actor-driven cemetery tour for Mountain Home.

F. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM

1. Historic Preservation Awards of Merit Expenditures

Pena reached out to Michelle Johnson and have not heard back. We can print out award and give to her then next year include in the award ceremony. Hibbard when we make contact with that organization we can discuss that.

Vail move to recommend approving the budget for the Historic Preservation Awards of Merit not to exceed \$350.00 and on a recurring basis from the O'Connor one account from the spendable portion.

Unanimous

2. Encouraging Community-Wide Engagement Discussion

Edison I talked to individuals the meeting didn't happen. What was discussed in the individual conversations was on there and what we are doing moving forward.

Pena it was just a change in name so everything can be on the same page. The next steps we got a letter put together and wanted to mail to the groups that were identified or affiliated with minority individuals in the community. Steering them to Kalamazoo Public Library you can get on the entire Kalamazoo Gazette if you have a library card.

G. COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Pena didn't include

H. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Edison on the ancient garden beds committee with Kalamazoo in Bloom we got some information on Menominee Michigan put out by NPR and a study done by Dartmouth some ancient garden beds are existed up there.

Akina there are two folks that joined that work with the Gun Lake Tribe and are tribal members that work with your garden group. That is due to their affiliation with the tribe. The second person who joined the garden group is Rebecca Roupe.

Harris Western will be tearing down a few buildings on East Campus, Vander Cook Hall demolition has started on that on May 27th. Hazardous waste and material abatement has started and moving into demolition July through August.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Hibbard moved to adjourn 6:50 pm.

The mission of the Kalamazoo Historic Preservation Commission is to educate the public and city leaders on the value of preserving the City's historic resources and to advise the City Commission accordingly. Questions and comments regarding this agenda should be directed to the Historic Preservation Coordinator at 337-8804.

Comments under the "Public Comments" section of the agenda are limited to four minutes per speaker. During agenda items, comments from members of the public are also limited to four minutes each, unless the speaker is invited to join in the discussion by the Commission.