

Minutes

Historic Preservation Commission

City of Kalamazoo



Wednesday, April 22nd, 2026

6:00 PM

City Commission Chambers at City Hall – 241 West South Street

A. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Called to order 6:00 PM

B. ADOPTION OF FORMAL AGENDA

Hibbard moved to approve agenda

Harris 2nd

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Harris in A Harris has 2 r's, in D MHP in the second line should have an N, reports E F extra word and near the bottom, Dusti has y and should be I. H Fred misspelled in 3rd sentence misspelled SHPO. Hibbard in E 3 should be spelled Neil and is spelled Neal.

Hibbard approved as amended

Paduk 2nd

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Pam just got tonight's meeting documents this afternoon. I was surprised by the minutes which appear to be translations of the recording rather than minutes. Everyone knows the MHPN conference is coming up next month. One of the items F! did not use the gifts and grants cannot be addressed by you tonight. It is in an inappropriate format, and it did not use our gifts and grants program application. You have a copy of that application format that I bought with me. It is available in the very first paragraph of the O'Connor Fund webpage. That is what needs to be followed it involves a couple of steps: a three-minute presentation by the applicant, the adoption of the idea of the program by one of you, and the preservation commission would then work with the applicant to come back and make a presentation that outlines the criteria that are on that form.

E. REPORTS

1. Financial Report
Pena read report

2. Preservation Month Plan

Harris we are recommending that we award both nominees whose applications included. Our rationale behind that included the writeup. We believe that they certainly exemplify the standards and guidelines that we use to review the nominees and like to see them honored. We are announcing Sharon Ferraro will speak at the award ceremony on May 27th. I will be sending out the flyer that I will be hanging up around town.

3. O'Connor Fund Report
Pena the fund has had substantial gains. It looks like the fund is looking good. O'Connor one is up \$81,000. The current available balance 18 grand. O'Connor two net assets are up to \$579,000. Current balance is 70 grand. Vail has there been any movement on merging of the accounts and shifting the account around? Pam I specifically sent a note to the Community Foundation the are working on an alternative to what was originally proposed. It will take a little longer.

F. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM

1. Historic Preservation Awards of Merit Nomination Review
Pena Pam, thank you for writing about both of these wonderful nominations. These are willing recommendations for both of these folks. Blair Bates is an excellent mason, and his work speaks for itself. Lynn and Blair both are leaders and educators and are way more active than most preservationists. Vail all in favor of giving Lynn and Blair Awards of Merit for Historic Preservation.
All in favor
This will take place on May 27th at 6 pm at 315 West Michigan.
2. Friends of Kalamazoo Historic Cemeteries Micro Grant Request
Vail does this need to happen quickly? Morton not quickly but summer work would be good to get started I think that's what Gary is looking for. Hibbard was the wrong application but hit all the boxes correct? Luis it did. This is not an O'Connor Fund grant process. I will connect with Gary to come and do a three-minute presentation at the May meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission. He has put together a wonderful application with a letter of endorsement from James Baker who is the director of public services.

3. COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Pena presented

4. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Pena want to thank Melissa and Fred for their willingness to continue on with us for a little bit. Congratulations to Kyle and Patrick on their new roles of chair and vice chair. Hibbard make sure to straighten that out on the website and on the packets to. Will be starting next week the condition assessment report of City Hall. Hibbard mentioned your nomination to the MHPN board. Pena yes I am one of the Michigan Historic Preservation Board of directors members now. Morton Association of Gravestone studies conference is opening. Registration is available on their website. It is coming to Grand Rapids this year. Edison later this month the three Sisters garden planting series begins. The first planting is Saturday May 23rd at Bronson Park at 11 am. Followed by the following week May 30th. Then in June for the 3rd. Akina are we still good for our May meeting Pena yes.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Vail moved to adjourn at 6:47

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.