



Holyoke Historical Commission
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 18, 2019

Attendance: Richard Ahlstrom (Chairperson), Joe Paul, Frances Welson, Paola Ferrario **Absent:** Chris Gauthier, James Sheehan **Municipal Staff:** Marcos Marrero (OPED)

1. **Call to Order-** Richard Ahlstrom called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
2. **Review of February 11, April 18 and March 11, 2019 Minutes** – Minutes were not available. They will be available for approval at next Historical Commission meeting in May.
3. **Public Participation** – None
4. **Update on District Local Technical Assistance from PVPC(DLTA)- Marcos Marrero**
Marcos Marrero updated the Board on the District Local Technical Assistance from PVPC noting that technical assistance could be available when CPA projects need a Historical Commission review. The DLTA would provide funding for up to 22 hours at a cost of \$2500. Mr. Marrero requested using the \$2000 Historical Commission line item to pay for the assistance. The Commissioners will make a determination at the next HHC meeting in May if funding can be applied.
5. **216 Appleton St Historic Tax Credit Support Letter**
Marcos Marrero stated that Winn Development has asked for an updated Letter of Support from the Historical Commission. The commissioners reviewed the draft letter for the next round of Historic tax credits. Richard Ahlstrom would sign the document early next week. Mr. Marrero added that HRA currently owns the property and is under currently agreement with Winn Development.
A motion was made by Joe Paul and seconded by Paola Ferrario to approve the letter of support for Winn Development as amended. The motion carried 4-0.
6. **Demolition Delay Ordinance Revisions** - Marcos Marrero noted that he will invite Damien Cote to the next HHC meeting in May to review the demolition delay Ordinance with Commissioners. Mr. Cote had a prior commitment and was unable to make tonight's meeting.
7. **Old Business:**
 - a. **CPC Update** – Marcos Marrero stated staff submitted a CPC application for Richardson Train Station, 123 Pine Street, and the Armory. Mr. Marrero stated that CPC has made it clear that they only have funding left for one project. The application for 123 Pine street was the only application that had a developer and as of Tuesday, April 16, 2019* the Holyoke City Council approved \$30,000 for Historic Preservation.

b. Richardson Train station – Marcos Marrero stated that at the walkthrough of the train station last month there were two interested parties. Staff will be issuing a request for proposals for this property and see how many applications are received. Mr. Marrero noted that a zone change for the train station may be beneficial to allow other uses of the property. He noted that this property is currently zoned Downtown Residential and the Historical Commission may want to consider supporting a zone change to save the building and its architecture.

8. New Business

MA Survey & Plan Award – Richard Ahlstrom stated that the HHC was selected to receive from MA Survey & Planning award of \$10,000 allocation. The City would have to match the award, the \$2000 budget line-item could be utilized. Additional funding may be available through the CBDG \$20,000 grant application.

9. Next Meeting – May 20, 2019

10. Adjourn – There being no other business before the Commission, a motion was made by Frances Welton and seconded by Joe Paul to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 p.m. The motion carried 4-0.

Submitted by: Barbara Bou