



**Chair** – Paola Ferrario

**Vice Chair & Recording Secretary** – Christopher Gauthier

**Commissioners** - Elana Aubrey and Luis Salazar

**HOLYOKE HISTORICAL COMMISSION (HHC)**

**Meeting Minutes Monday, September 12, 2022, 5:30 p.m.**

City Hall Annex Conference Room 403 -or-

Via Zoom - Meeting ID 857 0948 7585/Telephone (646) 558-8656

**Attendance:** Paola Ferrario, Christopher Gauthier, Luis Salazar & Elana Aubrey (via telephone)

**Municipal Staff:** Jennifer Keitt - Office of Planning & Economic Development

**Attendees:** Tyler Caine (via zoom)

**1) Call to order** – 5:32 p.m.

Discussion regarding which agenda item to begin with.

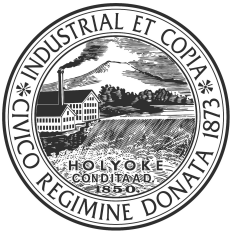
Motion to move out of order to #7 made by Commissioner Aubrey. Seconded by Commissioner Salazar. Roll call followed:

- Commissioner Aubrey      Yes
- Commissioner Salazar      Yes
- Commissioner Gauthier      Yes
- Chair Ferrario              Yes

**7) Discussion and approval for letter of Support for MA Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits for 245 High Street** - Russell-Osborne Building/Clough Block. Holyoke Health Center is the owner. Chair screen shared draft of proposed letter.

Motion to approve the letter of support for MA Historic Rehab Tax Credits for 245 High Street made by Commissioner Aubrey. Seconded by Commissioner Salazar. Roll call followed:

- Commissioner Aubrey              Yes
- Commissioner Salazar              Yes
- Commissioner Gauthier              Yes
- Chair Ferrario                      Yes



Motion to move out of order to #6 made by Commissioner Aubrey. Seconded by Commissioner Salazar. Roll call followed:

- |                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| • Commissioner Aubrey   | Yes |
| • Commissioner Salazar  | Yes |
| • Commissioner Gauthier | Yes |
| • Chair Ferrario        | Yes |

6) **Discussion and approval of CLG Opinion Card for 302 High Street** - Chair screen shares the CLG Opinion card she drafted. Brief discussion.

Motion to approve CLG Opinion Card for 302 High Street made by Commissioner Salazar and seconded by Commissioner Aubrey. Roll call followed:

- |                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| • Commissioner Aubrey   | Yes |
| • Commissioner Salazar  | Yes |
| • Commissioner Gauthier | Yes |
| • Chair Ferrario        | Yes |

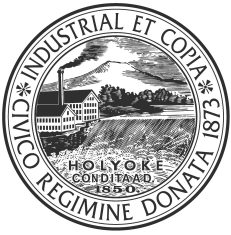
Motion to move out of order to #3 made by Commissioner Aubrey. Seconded by Commissioner Salazar. Roll call followed:

- |                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| • Commissioner Aubrey   | Yes |
| • Commissioner Salazar  | Yes |
| • Commissioner Gauthier | Yes |
| • Chair Ferrario        | Yes |

3) **Certified Local Government Annual Report 2021-22** - Chair screen shared draft CLG Annual Report. Minor spelling/grammatical revisions made. Additional pertinent information added. Commissioner Gauthier requested adding May Meeting Minutes & dropping the June Meeting Minutes.

Motion to approve the CLG Annual Report 2012-22 made by Commissioner Gauthier and seconded by Commissioner Aubrey. Roll call followed:

- |                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| • Commissioner Aubrey   | Yes |
| • Commissioner Salazar  | Yes |
| • Commissioner Gauthier | Yes |
| • Chair Ferrario        | Yes |



Motion to move to item #4 made by Commissioner Aubrey, seconded by Commissioner Salazar.  
Roll call forwarded:

- |                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| • Commissioner Aubrey   | Yes |
| • Commissioner Salazar  | Yes |
| • Commissioner Gauthier | Yes |
| • Chair Ferrario        | Yes |

**4) CPA Update -**

Discussion on new procedures and guidelines to establish historical significance for buildings, artifacts and places; Approval of new procedures and guidelines to establish historical significance for buildings, artifacts and places; Discussion of HHC's and CPC's personnel responsibilities in regard to reviewing eligibility for historical significance

Amy Landau (Administrator, Community Preservation Committee) was unable to attend tonight's meeting. Chair created the first draft of procedures/guidelines to establish historical significance – How to Seek a Letter of Historic Significance from the Holyoke Historical Commission. Reviewed and edited by Meg McGrath and Amy Landau. Discussed revisions. List of state registered historical locations available online and via email.

Need to reschedule the next meeting which falls on 10/10/2022 Indigenous Peoples Day. New Meeting date: 10/19/2022.

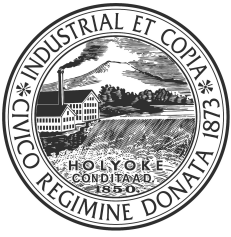
Motion to approve the revised procedures & guidelines - How to Seek a Letter of Historic Significance from the Holyoke Historical Commission – made by Commissioner Salazar, seconded by Commissioner Aubrey.  
Roll call followed:

- |                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| • Commissioner Aubrey   | Yes |
| • Commissioner Salazar  | Yes |
| • Commissioner Gauthier | Yes |
| • Chair Ferrario        | Yes |

Motion to move to item #9 made by Commissioner Aubrey, seconded by Commissioner Salazar. Roll call followed:

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|-------------------------|-----|
| • Commissioner Aubrey   | Yes |
| • Commissioner Salazar  | Yes |
| • Commissioner Gauthier | Yes |
| • Chair Ferrario        | Yes |

- 9) Blue Sky Tower III, wireless telecommunication facility at 939 Chicopee Street, Chicopee, MA.** Per chair, Commission must respond. Non-response equals acceptance. Commissioner Aubrey expressed concerns about environmental racism due to placement of tower and neighborhood affected. Comparative discussion of other towers in the city. Chair drafted response (included in packet provided to Commissioners). Concern over changing the skyline of downtown. The Commission wants to request a picture of the tower in order to respond appropriately.



Motion to send letter to Blue Sky Tower requesting additional information regarding tower made by Commissioner Salazar, seconded by Commissioner Gauthier. Roll call followed:

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|-------------------------|-----|
| • Commissioner Aubrey   | Yes |
| • Commissioner Salazar  | Yes |
| • Commissioner Gauthier | Yes |
| • Chair Ferrario        | Yes |

Motion to go to item #2 made by Commissioner Salazar, seconded by Commissioner Aubrey. Roll call followed:

- |                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| • Commissioner Aubrey   | Yes |
| • Commissioner Salazar  | Yes |
| • Commissioner Gauthier | Yes |
| • Chair Ferrario        | Yes |

**2) Approval of Minutes for August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022, August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022 -**

Motion made to untable the 7/11/2022 minutes drafted by OPED staff by Commissioner Salazar, seconded by Commissioner Aubrey. Roll call followed:

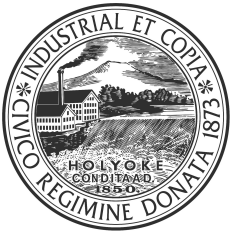
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| • Commissioner Aubrey   | Yes |
| • Commissioner Salazar  | Yes |
| • Commissioner Gauthier | Yes |
| • Chair Ferrario        | Yes |

Motion to reject the 7/11/2022 minutes drafted by OPED staff made by Commissioner Aubrey, seconded by Commissioner Salazar. Roll call followed:

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|-------------------------|-----|
| • Commissioner Aubrey   | Yes |
| • Commissioner Salazar  | Yes |
| • Commissioner Gauthier | Yes |
| • Chair Ferrario        | Yes |

Motion to accept, not approve, the 7/11/2022 minutes drafted by Commissioner Gauthier made by Commissioner Aubrey, seconded by Commissioner Salazar. Roll call followed:

- |                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| • Commissioner Aubrey   | Yes |
| • Commissioner Salazar  | Yes |
| • Commissioner Gauthier | Yes |
| • Chair Ferrario        | Yes |



Motion to accept, not approve, 8/8/2022 and 8/29/2022 minutes made by Commissioner Salazar, seconded by Commissioner Aubrey. Roll call followed:

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|-------------------------|-----|
| • Commissioner Aubrey   | Yes |
| • Commissioner Salazar  | Yes |
| • Commissioner Gauthier | Yes |
| • Chair Ferrario        | Yes |

Motion to move to item #5 made by Commissioner Aubrey, seconded by Commissioner Salazar. Roll call followed:

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|-------------------------|-----|
| • Commissioner Aubrey   | Yes |
| • Commissioner Salazar  | Yes |
| • Commissioner Gauthier | Yes |
| • Chair Ferrario        | Yes |

- 5) **Report By Chair and Vice Chair on Meeting with Mayor Aaron Vega and Jennifer Keitt about HHC designated staff.** Discussed animosity between OPED and Historical Commission. Aired differences. Moving forward.

Motion to go back to item #8 made by Commissioner Aubrey, seconded by Commissioner Salazar. Roll Call followed:

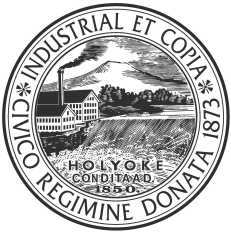
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|-------------------------|-----|
| • Commissioner Aubrey   | Yes |
| • Commissioner Salazar  | Yes |
| • Commissioner Gauthier | Yes |
| • Chair Ferrario        | Yes |

- 8) **Report from Commissioners attending other board and committee meetings.**  
PPG didn't meet in August. Commissioner Aubrey attended the first CPA meeting. Commissioner Aubrey also attended a tourism meeting. Briefly discussed 10/15/2022 events. Commissioner Gauthier has volunteered to join the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary but hasn't attended a meeting yet due to time scheduled.

Motion to move to item #10 made by Commissioner Salazar, seconded by Commissioner Aubrey. Roll call followed:

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|-------------------------|-----|
| • Commissioner Aubrey   | Yes |
| • Commissioner Salazar  | Yes |
| • Commissioner Gauthier | Yes |
| • Chair Ferrario        | Yes |

- 10) Announcements – none



11) **New Business -**

The Essex Street District should know about nomination soon. Expected to be listed within 30 days.

12) **Old Business -**

Commissioner Aubrey wants to know the status of the demo delay ordinance. Will follow up. 1840 Northampton Street – belongs to the hospital. Roof has been done. Renovations beginning. Asked that siding be removed, back to the original clapboard. Center Churchill District – nothing provided to the Commission yet. Received Richardson train info from MHC. Owner doesn't want to proceed.

13) **Adjournment** – Motion to Adjourn made by Commissioner Salazar, seconded by Commissioner Gauthier - 7:30 pm. Roll call followed:

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|-------------------------|-----|
| • Commissioner Aubrey   | Yes |
| • Commissioner Salazar  | Yes |
| • Commissioner Gauthier | Yes |
| • Chair Ferrario        | Yes |