

City of Erie
Historic Preservation Task Force
Regular Meeting Agenda
March 11, 2020

A regular meeting of the Erie Historic Preservation Task Force will be held Wednesday, March 11th, 2020 at 3:30 pm in Room 500 of the City of Erie Municipal Building, 626 State Street, Erie, PA 16501

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

<i>Member</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Emily Aloiz	X	
Dave Brennan	X	
Melissa Hake	X	
Elizabeth Kelly		X
Melinda Meyer	X	
Chuck Scalise	X	
Mark Steg	X	

Bill Callahan was present. Kathy Wyrosdick attended the meeting via phone.

Chairman Brennan called the meeting to order at 3:35pm.

2. Approval of Minutes from November 13th, 2019

M. Steg made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by M. Hake. The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. New Business

a. Keystone Preservation Grant Update-Melinda Meyer

The Erie Downtown Partnership submitted an application for design guidelines with a cash match in hand from the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority (ECGRA).

M. Meyer said that there have been previous attempts to fund design guidelines in the City of Erie with the Keystone Preservation Grant that have not been successful. The 2020 application is the 3rd attempt. In 2018 the application was not funded, but the feedback from the state was that it was very competitive. In 2019 the results were the same.

B. Callahan said that even though regulations to enforce design guidelines are not required to receive funding for their creation, it can disadvantage the western Pennsylvania applications when compared to the eastern Pennsylvania applications where regulation and enforcement does exist.

Titusville, Pennsylvania successfully applied for a Keystone Preservation Grant to create design guidelines even though they are not enforceable. M. Meyer said the Titusville guidelines were very well done.

Announcement of the Keystone Preservation Grant recipients should be in late summer with a September 1st start date.

4. Old Business

- a. Review of subcommittee work and consensus around next steps
 - i. Develop neighborhood toolkit designed to help neighborhood groups understand and plan for historic preservation

M. Meyer has examples of tool kits already developed that she can share. This would be something useful to present at a Neighborhood Growth Partnership meeting.

- ii. Review HRC talking points and next steps to be sent to Council and Mayor

D. Brennan discussed the main points of the draft sent out prior to the meeting.

As a certified local government, the City would like to apply for funding to secure one fulltime staff member to facilitate the creation of the historic preservation board. The review board would be staffed with volunteers with City of Erie staff support.

B. Callahan said that CLG funding could be used for staff support. Other places in Pennsylvania have justified their staff support by using the ratio of historic buildings to professionals. In addition a staff person increase the level of efficiency of the entire City government.

There is a 4 month period before Certified Local Government status is obtained during which the City of Erie can apply for CLG funding.

K. Wyrosdick will put together a timeline for next steps

- iii. Survey update—County to create Survey 1,2,3 need volunteers to help gather information

The strategy to piggy back on the Gannon students' survey was not implementable for the historic preservation survey. Members of the task force said they were willing to volunteer to begin the survey.

B. Callahan will help supply the specific, required questions.

The survey will be completed with Survey 123 app to be created by Mike Baker of Erie County using the existing agreement between the City of Erie and the County of Erie's Data Center. B. Callahan said the SHPO can also supply support to help train people to use the survey technology.

5. Adjourn

The meeting adjourns are 4:43pm

