

The Hammond Historic Preservation Commission held a meeting on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, in person and via [Zoom.us](https://zoom.us).

The meeting began at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Amanda Aguilera (IP)
Anne Taylor (IP)
Kevin Clutter (IP)
Laurie Czulno (IP)
Janet Evans (IP)
Patrick Swibes (IP)

ABSENT

Christopher Jones
Debbie McGough

ALSO PRESENT

Brian L. Poland, AICP
Director of City Planning

Tom Novak
Asst. City Planner

Shannon Morris-Smith
Recording Secretary

Ray Escamilla
I.T., Zoom

PRESENT- 6

ABSENT- 2

QUORUM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Swibes called for a motion to table the minutes for the October 1, 2024 meeting. Ms. Taylor so moved, seconded by Ms. Czulno. Roll call vote. Amanda Aguilera/yes, Anne Taylor/yes, Kevin Clutter/yes, Laurie Czulno/yes, Janet Evans/yes, Patrick Swibes/yes. 6 "Ayes", 0 "Nays", 2 "Absent", 0 "Abstentions". Motion carried.

Mr. Swibes called for a motion to approve the minutes for the April 1, 2025 meeting. Ms. Czulno so moved, seconded by Mr. Clutter. Roll call vote. Amanda Aguilera/yes, Anne Taylor/yes, Kevin Clutter/yes, Laurie Czulno/yes, Janet Evans/yes, Patrick Swibes/yes. 6 "Ayes", 0 "Nays", 2 "Absent", 0 "Abstentions". Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

OLD BUSINESS

Project Updates

Educational Assistance and Communications Committee

On-line display – Ms. Czulno stated the first portion of the virtual presentation "Hammond Looking Up" was online. The print company would mount materials for the display board project. The materials for the physical display were on back order, but have been delivered. Ms. Czulno further stated she was hopeful that the display board would be completed any day.

Mr. Poland asked if the committee had the proclamation. Ms. Czulno stated "Yes". Mr. Poland advised the Commissioners that he received the preservation month brochure from Indiana

Landmarks. The name of the brochure was "Faces of Architecture". Ms. Czulno stated she submitted two photo of City Hall to the photo contest.

Ms. Czulno updated that the committee had started working on the 2nd and 3rd portion of the presentation.

Mr. Poland discussed an email that was sent to the Commissioners regarding his request to research a couple of properties. There was a discussion on the committee's schedule, strategy, and research specifics for both projects. Mr. Poland further reported that 28-34 Ruth Street has been demolished. There was a discussion on working with a consultant to create an online Harrison Park presentation that was required by the State. There was a further discussion on the anticipation of an online presentation requirement for the Botanical Gardens Building. The anticipation of the online presentation was the bases of his email request to the Commissioners.

2025 Project/Little Red Schoolhouse – Ms. Aguilera stated there were no new updates. Ms. Aguilera was awaiting a call back from the LRSH representative to set up resuming work at the building.

Special Projects Committee – There were no new updates.

Designation Committee – Mr. Poland asked if there were any comments prior to him reviewing the list. Mr. Swibes stated the committee would schedule a meeting to do more research on the committee's first choice in the upcoming weeks.

Mr. Poland reviewed the items in red type on the landmark list. The red type was based on an email that was sent to the committee highlighting questions about the list and corrections. There was a discussion on page 2, category C, Forest Avenue District. The five district in the Forest Avenue area were included. The State Street and Hohman Avenue Commercial Historic District were corrected. The Banc and Mueller Buildings were not in the Hohman Avenue Historic District. The OK Champion and NIPSCO building were added.

The State Street Commercial Historic District removed the Minus Building due to demolition. Category B, the Botanic Gardens was removed due to pending demolition. The Banc and Mueller Building were added State Street Commercial Historic District.

Mr. Poland asked if there were any questions or discussions. There were none.

Ms. Czulno motioned to adopt the Landmark List as presented, Mr. Clutter so moved. Roll call vote. Amanda Aguilera/yes, Anne Taylor/yes, Kevin Clutter/yes, Laurie Czulno/yes, Janet Evans/yes, Patrick Swibes/yes. 6 "Ayes", 0 "Nays", 2 "Absent", 0 "Abstentions". Motion carried.

There was a discussion on the history of The Banc and the Botanical Garden building. It was requested that information be shared on the research of both properties.

Design Review Committee – There were no new updates.

5935 Hohman Avenue - Montessori Schoolhouse – Mr. Novak stated July 7, 2025 was the tentative date for the renovations that were approved in October 2024 to begin.

229 Ogden Street – Mr. Novak stated there were no new updates.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

There were none.

STAFF COMMENTS

Mr. Poland discussed rescheduling the June 3rd meeting due to a change with the May 28th BZA meeting change to June 3rd. The new HPC meeting date would be June 10th. Ms. Evans motioned to reschedule the June 3, 2025 meeting date to June 10, 2025, seconded by Ms. Taylor. Roll call vote. Amanda Aguilera/yes, Anne Taylor/yes, Kevin Clutter/yes, Laurie Czulno/yes, Janet Evans/yes, Patrick Swibes/yes. 6 “Ayes”, 0 “Nays”, 2 “Absent”, 0 “Abstentions”. Motion carried.

LIAISON COMMENTS

There was none.

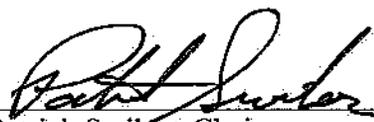
PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Czulno motioned to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Taylor. The meeting adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

APPROVED: 6-10-25


Patrick Swibes, Chairperson

ATTEST:


Shannon Morris-Smith, Secretary