

**Independence Historical Preservation Resource Commission:
Minutes of the February 25th, 2019 meeting.**

The meeting was called to order in the Spanish American Wars Veteran Room of Memorial Hall at 12:05 pm. Members present included: Ken Brown, Sean Clapp, Tim Raglin, Tim Haynes, Tim Emert, Mark Easter and Tom Hoffert.

The minutes from the last meeting (January 14, 2019) were reviewed by the Commission. Tim Haynes then motioned for approval and Sean Clapp seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

The next order of business dealt with public meetings required prior to homes being listed on the Local Register. Ken Brown informed the Commission that there is a City ordinance which requires public meetings in accordance with this matter. He went on to say that even those these past meetings have been poorly attended they are a requirement and as such ads will now be placed in the local paper informing the public of the time and place such meetings will be held.

The third order of business was an update on the manufacture of the historical plaques for the downtown Historic District. Tim Haynes reported that a number of plaques have been produced however there are still a number left to be created. The lack of production, he stated stems from a shortage of people being able to create them and that he will see if he can track down more help.

The fourth order of business was a follow up to historic buildings owner Ken Devore's request from the January 14 meeting asking the Commission if they would have an onsite inspection of a retaining wall at the back of his buildings. He stated that he does not believe the wall is related to his structures and that it is in a considerable state of disrepair. He would like to see the wall removed primarily for safety reasons. The Commission members had done an inspection and came to the following that: 1) the property owner must first determine, through legal documentation the ownership of the wall and 2) have a structural engineer exam the wall and state that in his opinion it is structurally challenged. Once that information is supplied to the Commission then a determination could be made.

The next order of business had to do with the inclusion of additional businesses to the Signs & Awnings brochure. To date a number of businesses offering sign production are listed on the brochure however there are still a number of companies that are not. The Commission decided that rather than remove all mention of these firms off of the brochure it would be better to be more inclusive and add as many known sign manufacturing firms as possible. Ken Brown offered to attend to this matter.

Next Sean Clapp, of the Design Review Committee gave the Commission a brief update on the progress being made on the Scranton building (223 W Main/a contributing element of the Historical District) which is slated for the introduction of Indy Brew Works. He reported that progress is being made on the internal components of the building but that structural issues are causing some concern. These concerns have to do with the massive weight of the brewing equipment and as to how best the floor can be reinforced to support the brewing tanks. The project however is on schedule.

The last order of business dealt with an outdoor seating request from Dickey's Barbecue located at 204 N Penn (a contributing element within the Historic District). At this point Sean Clapp informed the Commission that he would be recusing himself from any vote on this matter as he and his firm have a vested professional interest in the remodelling of the building. He went on to explain that during the remodelling process it was discovered the exterior main floor glass and the frames containing the glass were beyond repair. It was at this point the owner suggested that instead of replacing the glass and frames that the area be repurposed for outdoor seating. Sean Clapp produced for the Commission's review design plans showing how other than the removal of glass and frames no other structural components would be affected. He went on to state that if in the future new glass and frames were to be installed it would be easily effected. Mark Easter motioned that "Since the proposed outdoor seating plan would not damage or destroy the character defining features of the structure coupled with the ability to restore the glass and frames in the future that the Commission approve the proposed outdoor seating arrangement." Tim Emert seconded the motion and the motion was passed by the Commission with Sean Clapp in absentia.

Sean Clapp moved to adjourn, seconded by Tom Hoffert. The meeting was adjourned at 12:45.

Minutes compiled by Tom Hoffert
Secretary, Independence Historical Preservation Resource Commission.

