



# Historic Landmarks and Preservation Commission Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 4:00 PM

Columbus City Hall – 105 N. Dickason Boulevard

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**Call Meeting to Order**

**Notice of Open Meeting**

**Approval of agenda**

**Approve minutes from previous meeting(s)**

[Consider](#) and take action to approve the minutes of previous meeting(s).

**Public Comments (3 minute limit per person)**

**New Business**

- [1.](#) Consideration and possible action regarding financial reports and invoices
- [2.](#) Discuss and take possible actions regarding 2026 spending priorities and goals
- [3.](#) Consider and take action regarding historic preservation fundraising efforts and opportunities, specifically the calendar project
- [4.](#) Consider and take action to begin the process of local historic designation of Fireman's Park, 1049 Park Ave.
- [5.](#) Consider and take action to begin preparing for the 2026 Summer Concert Series
- [6.](#) Consider and take action regarding Rest Haven upgrades and maintenance
- [7.](#) Consider and take action regarding local historic recognition activities, specifically addressing a damaged district sign and implementation of the bronze placards and yard signs

**Adjourn**



# Historic Landmarks and Preservation Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 27, 2026 at 4:00 PM

Columbus City Hall – 105 N. Dickason Boulevard

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## Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ruth Hermanson at 4:00 p.m. in the City Hall committee room.

Commissioners Altschwager, Hermanson, Gilbertson, Elling (Mayor Hammer arrived at 4:10). Dave Bennett and Kendra Riddle (Finance Director) were also present. Commissioners Nagle and Ulrich were absent and excused.

## Notice of Open Meeting

Chair Hermanson noted that the meeting agenda had been posted and distributed per State Statutes.

## Approval of agenda

Motion by Gilbertson, second by Altschwager, to approve the January 27 agenda as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

## Approve minutes from previous meeting(s)

Consider and take action to approve the minutes of previous meeting(s).

Motion by Gilbertson, second Gilbertson to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

## Public Comments (3 minute limit per person)

None presented.

## New Business

1. Consideration and possible action regarding financial reports and invoices.

Motion by Elling, second by Hammer to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Elling, second by Gilbertson, to approve payment of \$785.00 (from Account #255362) to H&E Electric as a partial draw on the project to install electric power to the main door at the Rest Haven. Roll call vote 5 -0 to approve.

2. Presentation and discussion regarding the City's fiscal policies and procedures.

Director Riddle asked the Commissioners in general and the CHLPC Treasurer specifically to send the Finance office the monthly treasurer's report early in the month so that the City can include in their monthly statements. She also noted that materials for the annual audity report can be sent at any time by February 15.

3. Consider and take action to determine 2026 spending priorities and overall historic preservation goals.

Chair Hermanson noted that the City Council and CHLPC had requested notations on the group's 2026 work program. The commission discussion on January 2027 identified the following:

- Brass plaque installation downtown
  - Yard sign installations from walking tour notes
  - Design Guideline confirmation/update
  - Start process for designation of a local downtown historic district
  - Participation in City-sponsored Independence Day parade float?
4. Consider and take action regarding Rest Haven maintenance and upgrades.
- Chair Hermanson announced that the City Council had authorized expenditures up to \$25,000 for the front door replacement. She will be contacting Zuehrn for final ordering and coordination with potential installers.
5. Consider and take action regarding historic recognition of local buildings and site, specifically implementing fixed placards.
- Plaques for downtown properties have been delivered. Next steps include written permission slips from property owners, send letters to these properties to set installation time, get final opinion from City Attorney on potential liability waivers.
6. Discussion of the feasibility of local historic designations of the Fireman's Park Pavilion and Rest Haven.
- The CHLPC unanimously requested that City staff prepare materials for consideration of loan designation on the Pavilion at Fireman's Park and Rest Haven building at Fireman's Park. Specifically, this designation is NOT to include the entire park property as a historic site.
7. Consider and take possible action regarding the 2026 Summer Concert Series.
- No co-sponsors had yet appeared for this series of events. The Commission will decide at the February meeting on a GO / NO GO for 2026 season.

### **Adjourn**

Motion by Altschwager, second by Hammer to adjourn at 5:12 p.m. Carried Unanimously.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, February 17, 2026, and March 24 at 4:00 p.m., at City Hall.

Respectfully submitted, Henry J. Elling, CHLPC Secretary

**CHLPC TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**February 10, 2026**

<b>SUSAN STARE</b>	<b>CD</b>	<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>02.10.26</b>	<b>\$19,148.88</b>
<b>AUDITORIUM FUND</b>				
<b>WATER TOWER FUND 253474</b>		<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>02.10.26</b>	<b>\$10,704.85</b>
<b>Mary Poser/Former Columbus Auditorium Corporation</b>	<b>2502700</b>	<b>CD</b>		
		<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>02.10.26</b>	<b>\$32,307.87</b>
<b>REST HAVEN IMPROVEMENT</b>	<b>(new savings acct) 255362</b>			
		<b>BALANCE</b>		<b>\$138,329.42</b>
			<b>Deposit</b>	
<b>Cashier check correction never cashed</b>			<b>01.14.26</b>	<b>\$127.50</b>
<b>bank correction</b>				
<b>Duane &amp; Libby Gilbertson summer concert donation</b>			<b>02.03.26</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Jan Ulrich book royalty</b>			<b>02.09.26</b>	<b>\$275.00</b>
<b>H E &amp; security</b>		<b>Withdrawal</b>	<b>02.03.26</b>	<b>\$785.00</b>
<b>partial power to door at</b>				
<b>rest haven proposal</b>				
<b>CHLPC ACCOUNT 187450</b>		<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>02.10.26</b>	<b>\$32,730.58</b>
				<b>\$2,400.00</b>
4th of July Committee 2014 donation for rest haven project				\$5,000.00
Rest haven bathroom donation from Bob & Janet Groh 2015				\$5,000.00
Rest haven donation from Dave & Sue Zittel 2018				\$500.00
Rest haven bathroom donation from Dave & Sue Zittel 2018				\$500.00
Rest haven bathroom donation from Bob & Janet Groh 2018				\$5,000.00
Rest haven bathroom donation from Mary Derr 2019				\$1,000.00
Rest haven donation from Dave & Sue Zittel 2019			09.09.19	\$500.00
Rest haven donation from Lyco 2019			09.09.19	\$500.00
Rest haven donation from Bob & Janet Groh 2019				\$10,000.00



**February 10, 2026**

**COLUMBUS PAVILION ADA ACCESSIBILITY FUND**

<b>ACCOUNT 250968</b>	<b>02.10.26</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,046.11</b>
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RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,  
BETH ALTSCHWAGER, TREASURER



## Agenda Item Report

**Meeting Type:** Historic Landmarks Preservation Commission

**Meeting Date:** February 17, 2026

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**Item Title:** Discuss and take possible actions regarding 2026 spending priorities and goals

**Submitted By:** David Bennett, Communications & Economic Development Coordinator

**Detailed Description of Subject Matter:**

The Historic Landmarks Preservation Commission discussed some goals for 2026 at its previous meeting. This included:

- Downtown design guidelines
- Participation at the Independence Day parade
- Local historic designation of the Pavilion and Rest Haven
- Creation and designation of a downtown local historic district
- Rest Haven improvements for 2026

**List all Supporting Documentation Attached:**

**Action Requested of the Historic Landmarks Preservation Commission:**

Discuss and prioritize 2026 spending and goals

**Strategic Plan Objective:**



## Agenda Item Report

**Meeting Type: Historic Landmarks Preservation Commission**

**Meeting Date: February 17, 2026**

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**Item Title:** Consider and take action to begin the process of local historic designation of Fireman's Park, 1049 Park Ave.

**Submitted By:** David Bennett, Communications & Economic Development Coordinator

**Detailed Description of Subject Matter:**

The Historic Landmarks Preservation Commission has discussed possibly locally designating the Fireman's Park Pavilion and Rest Haven buildings. The park was listed on the State Register on October 17, 2003, and the National Register on February 25, 2004. Both the Pavilion and Rest Haven are contributing buildings, and the concrete wall is a contributing structure.

Staff has found that the park itself is state and nationally designated as a site and would recommend locally designating the site rather than the individual buildings within the park.

**List all Supporting Documentation Attached:**

**Action Requested of the Historic Landmarks Preservation Commission:**

Direct staff to begin the process of local historic designation of Fireman's Park, located at 1049 Park Ave.

**Strategic Plan Objective:**



## Agenda Item Report

**Meeting Type: Historic Landmarks Preservation Commission**

**Meeting Date: February 17, 2026**

**Item Title:** Consider and take action to begin preparing for the 2026 Summer Concert Series

**Submitted By:** David Bennett, Communications & Economic Development Coordinator

**Detailed Description of Subject Matter:**

The Historic Landmarks Preservation Commission has discussed possibly hosting the 2026 Summer Concert Series. At the previous meeting, no co-sponsors have been secured and there was discussion regarding options for no longer hosting the event. Staff have reached out to a couple of communities that are similar in size to inquire how they put on their summer concerts. Ruth and Libby have discussed the summer concerts with the Columbus Chamber of Commerce about potential partnerships and possible passing the event over. Ruth has emailed the Recreation Department about possibly helping to keep the concerts going.

**List all Supporting Documentation Attached:**

- Berlin and Ripon Concert Summary

**Action Requested of the Historic Landmarks Preservation Commission:**

Decide if the CHLPC will put on the 2026 summer concerts and begin planning for the event

**Strategic Plan Objective:**

## How the Berlin Farmers & Artists Market works

- Spearheaded by the Berlin Farmers & Artists Market organization (BFAM)
  - Weekly band
  - Weekly organization highlight (School District, Kiwanis, Berlin Youth Sports, etc.) These groups are allowed to host a fundraiser and are promoted within the BFAM event
  - Vendors sign up to participate. They need to have all applicable vendor licensing, but do not pay to participate in the BFAM events. They schedule when they'd like to participate.
  - Sponsors donate to help pay for the musical entertainment, marketing, and additional amenities for the BFAM events. They are promoted. They comprise the largest financial contributions to the events.
  - Donors are like sponsors but aren't promoted. These are generally smaller financial contributions to the events.
- BFAM is not a City board, committee, or commission
  - BFAM will work with City departments to put on the event (i.e. Police, Fire, etc.)
  - BFAM will allow departments to promote activities or fundraisers at its events.

## How the Ripon Summer Concert Series work:

- Spearheaded by the Ripon Main Street organization, via the Village Green Inc. non-profit organization
  - Weekly bands
  - Professional sound and light crew (if not provided by the band).
  - Alcohol on premises. Ripon Main Street owns the venue, and the area is fenced off to create a beer garden. Alcohol sales take place on the venue premises and a no carry-in / no carry-out policy is enforced. ID is required.
  - Ripon Main Street heavily tries to promote eating at one of the downtown restaurants near the music venue but does not prohibit people from bringing their own food.
  - Ripon Main Street/Village Green Inc. fundraises by soliciting for band sponsors, beverage sponsors, and venue improvement donations.