



City of North Tonawanda

Historic Preservation Commission

City Hall
216 Payne Ave.
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Regular Meeting May 19, 2025, 6:00PM

Minutes

Present: Kristin Derby, April Gampp, Chuck Weaver, Scott Kuebler, Erin Robinson, Matt Bille
Excused: Dennis Garland

Meeting called to order 6:00pm.

Regular Business

Motion to accept April minutes

1st Erin Robinson 2nd April Gampp

All in favor

 6 Aye 0 Nay

New Business

Downtown Placemaking COA (Oliver Street) – Lumber City Development Corporation representing for the public portion of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative funded projects. Oliver Street will be placemaking changes with DRI, GRG program, Greenway, and Smart Growth 2.0 funds. Bump outs, planters, hashed sidewalk in front of railroad (nod to railroad tracks) at Tremont (part of Local District), trees. The intention is to make improvements to a key gateway to the City. Planters will be the same oversized colored planters as Webster Street, bike racks will be powder coated color metal with cut out designs representing the Canal/Railroad. Pedestrian scaled lighting is still be determined but is identified as part of the project. A bus stop will be going in on Goundry Street. **No action taken due to designs being finalized for materials, colors. HPC will wait on finalized drawings of lighting and bike racks.**

Downtown Placemaking COA (Webster Street) – Lumber City Development Corporation representing for the public portion of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative funded projects. Projects are currently out for bid that consist of paver replacement, concrete aggregate for sidewalks, 4 parking space Electric Vehicle charging stations (if enough funds), bike racks with powder coating and bird cutouts, black planters, and clock tower. Clock tower shown in black. Currently does not have a maintenance plan and clock face is not finalized. HPC prefers a more traditional design, roman or Arabic numerals on face and further details on color options, lifespan of colors/materials. Questions about wiring/saw cuts in sidewalk and when timing can be determined to avoid ruining work done. (Fresh paving was removed for gas line changes at

Riviera Theatre and currently dangerous for bicyclists.) Question about LED temperature for light fixtures, clock tower. Code specifies warm and downlighting. **No action taken due to designs being finalized for materials, colors. HPC will wait on finalized drawings of lighting, clocktower.**

Ascension Church

Current owner is pursuing legal action to have the original stained glass windows returned from St. Jude the Apostle. St. Jude's is part of Diocese closures. HPC provided digital scans of all correspondence and discussion of windows from prior years and wrote a letter in support of returning the windows.

Violations

Prosper Brewing signage is in state of disrepair. Dwyers façade is in state of disrepair, letter was previously issued. Forno e Gelato has exterior work and large oversized Adirondack chair that is unsecured on public right of way, History Museum signage is still up on Manhattan Street side of building, Canalside Liquor never responded to violation letter. HPC will do an audit of downtown district to discuss at next meeting and issue violation letters with dated photos.

Open Discussion

City is redoing zoning/code. This would be the time to ensure maps are correct in depicting Downtown District. Changes to code should have demolition by neglect language proposed for Historic Preservation chapter. Maps should be double checked to be accurate and avoid missing any parcels within Downtown Local District and Sweeney Estate Local District.

Motion to close

1st April Gampp 2nd Kristin Derby

All in favor

 6 Aye 0 Nay

Meeting close 7:03 pm.