

CARMEL HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

COUNCIL ROOM, CARMEL CITY HALL

1 CIVIC SQUARE, CARMEL, IN

January 8, 2026 – 6:00 P.M.

Minutes

1. **Call to Order**

Emily Ehrgott called the meeting to order at 6:05 P.M.

2. **Roll Call**

Commissioners Present: Barry Simich, Emily Ehrgott, Matt Uber, Nick Kestner, Kelly Baskett, Fred Swift

Commissioners Not Present: Bill Sanders

Staff: Mark Dollase, Alex Brooks

Guests:

3. **Approval of Minutes (11/13/2025)**

Matt motioned to approve the November minutes. Barry seconded. Motion approved 6-0.

4. **Hearing of Visitors**

None

5. **Certificate of Appropriateness Review**

None

6. **Report on Staff Approvals**

None

7. **Financial Report**

a. Budget update

Alex said the current budget is \$50,000.00 with a non-reverting fund of \$245,857.50 and relayed that funds were not carried over from the previous year.

b. 2026 Priorities

Mark said the commission needed to address how to allocate 2026 spending with limited funds, specifically for the façade grant program. Fred asked how the funds from 2025 were not carried over, and Mark said there was perhaps a disconnect between the Department of Community Services and City Council. Kelly shared her correspondence with the City which confirmed they knowingly decided not to carry over the 2025 funds.

8. Old Business

a. New Survey properties

Mark said the letters to these properties were sent out in November and a public meeting was held on November 20 regarding the issue. Mark noted the public opposition of some at the meeting but also the supportive comments made by many others. Emily said she watched the livestream. Barry also said he had watched the livestream of the meeting and commended the way Mark handled the meeting.

9. New Business

a. Demo delay—451 Emerson Rd.

The applicant, Jake Hogue, presented a rendering of what he would like a new house at the address to look like should he receive permission to demolish the property. Mark asked if the proposed home could fit in the existing lot, which Jake said it could. However, he also said he was in the preliminary phase and could scale down the proposed home. Mark said that Landmarks' recommendation would be to allow demolition but acknowledged the lack of clear plans on the part of the applicant given the early stages of development and proposed tabling the motion until next month until clearer plans can be made regarding the new house. Barry motioned to table the issue, seconded by Matt. Motion passed 6-0.

b. New meeting room/day

Mark said the City has informed them that the Commission will likely meet in the Caucus Room, where they once met, as opposed to the current Council Room. He said the City asked about having meetings on Tuesday nights, which commissioners said they could accommodate.

c. Indiana Landmarks contract

Mark asked for the commission to renew Indiana Landmarks' contract for 2026. Barry motioned to renew, seconded by Matt. Motion passed 6-0.

d. Website

Alex mentioned the URL for the Commission's page on the City's website has changed but they are still on the site. However, the minutes and agendas from past years are currently unavailable on the site.

10. Other Business

Mark noted that Matt Uber and his wife Erin are on the cover of the most recent edition of Indiana Landmarks' magazine.

Kelly said she had enjoyed the Indiana Landmarks newsletter, which she started receiving in the last few weeks.

11. Announcements

12. Adjournment

Emily made motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 P.M.



Emily Ehrgott, Chairperson,
Carmel Historic Preservation
Commission



Alex Brooks, Recording Secretary