

HIGHLAND REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
STUDY SESSION MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 14TH, 2023

Members of the Highland Redevelopment Commission (RC Commission) met in person at Town Hall on Tuesday, March 14th, 2023. The Study session was called to order at 6:34 pm by President Sean Conley.

Roll Call/Commissioners Present at Town Hall: Sean Conley, President; George Georgeff; Tom Black, Town Council President; and Alex Robertson, Vice President

Commissioner/Secretary Bill Leep is excused.

Additional Officials Present: Maria Becerra, Redevelopment Director; Susan Hale, Assistant Redevelopment Director; Scott Blise, Attorney; Pat Krull, Non-voting member & School Town Representative

Attorney John Reed is excused. Attorney Scott Blise attended in his place.

Also Present: None

General Substance and Discussion

1. Wayfinding signs – Discussion ensued about the wayfinding signs. It was noted that the appropriations were approved by the Town Council the previous evening. Some Commissioners shared other wayfinding signs that they noticed over the weekend in other cities/towns.
2. Highland Main Street – Vice President Alex Robertson and Assistant Redevelopment Director Susan Hale shared updates about Highland Main Street with the Commission, including the Farmers Market for this Summer and Fall and the April Essay Contest. Community Garden’s appropriations were also discussed.
3. Grants – Assistant Redevelopment Director Susan Hale brought the Commission up to speed on communications regarding the IN Indiana Public Art Activation Grant Program. The grant is set to be submitted by the end of the week. A draft of the mural was shown to the Commissioners.
4. Tax Abatement/SEH – Redevelopment Director Maria Becerra informed the Commission that she told the businesses receiving Tax Abatements to be at the Town Council meetings, so they can answer any questions that the Council might have. SEH will also be at these meetings to answer questions.
5. Commercial Grant – Everyone discussed how the commercial grant is not a façade grant anymore, and has not been for quite a while. The Commission was informed about Nephilim Studio’s Grand Opening coming up on March 17th.
6. HRC Police Homeownership Program – There was discussion about the Police Homeownership Program, including requirements, funding sources, and the legal aspect of whether it would be considered income.
7. New Residential TIF Districts – A couple Commissioners brought up the proposed legislation that, if passed, would allow for TIF districts in Residential areas.

The meeting was adjourned by President Sean Conley at 7:26 pm.