WEST SENECA COMMUNITY CENTER
1300 UNION ROAD
WEST SENECA, NY 14224

WEST SENECA HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 7, 2026

DRAFT

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the West Seneca Historical Preservation Commission was called to order by Chairperson Lang at 6:30 PM.

ROLL CALL

Present: Paul Lang, Chairperson

Ray Ball

Maureen Berbary

Michael Suita

Absent: Fran D'Amico (Excused)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Ball to waive the reading of the Minutes from the November 5, 2025 meeting.

Motion by Mr. Ball, seconded by Mr. Suita, to approve the Minutes from the November 5, 2025 meeting.

Ayes: All Noes: None Abstain: None Motion: Carried

OLD BUSINESS

- Review of Town Board Update Packet / Presentation Feedback

Chairperson Lang reported appearing before the Town Board to request financial support (which involves grant-related funding), formal adoption of a demolition ordinance, and adoption of a tax abatement program. The Town Board feedback was supportive. Approval of the demolition ordinance and tax abatement program are slated for 2026.

NEW BUSINESS

- SHPO CLG Performance Reviews

Feedback received from the New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Certified Local Government Program (CLG) was positive. SHPO advised the Historical Preservation Commission to list one property this year.

- Landmark Society of Western New York

The Historical Preservation Commission received correspondence from the Landmark Society of Western New York. Chairperson Lang will communicate any future developments.

- Upcoming Mill Road Local Landmark Public Hearing

All paperwork for Mill Road local landmark is complete. This hearing will take place at the Historical Preservation Commission meeting on March 4. Chairperson Lang will notify the Town Clerk's Office about the hearing for publication in the West Seneca Bee by February 9, for a targeted publication on February 12. Chairman Lang will also notify Deputy Town Supervisor Amelia Greenan about this schedule. Mr. Ball suggested notifying Town Supervisor Gary Dickson as well.

- SHPO CLG Grants

The prior SHPO CLG grant was completed, Preservation Studios was paid, and all final documentation was submitted. A new CLG grant has been submitted, and Chairperson Lang will follow up with SHPO regarding anticipated award timeline.

- NTHP Grants

Chairperson Lang is reviewing grant opportunities in the $5,000-15,000 range from the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP). He has initiated correspondence with Gary Dickson and Amelia Greenan about support in pursuing these opportunities.

- Historical Preservation Commission Member Terms

Amelia Greenan inquired with Chairperson Lang about a discrepancy in the listed HPC membership term durations. Presently, the HPC page on the Town Website lists that Ms. Berbary and Ms. D'Amico's terms expire this year, which is contrary to their appointments being intended to end at different times. Mr. Ball and Chairperson Lang will review previous Town Board minutes to clarify this matter.

ISSUES OF THE PUBLIC

None.

COMMUNICATIONS BY BOARD MEMBERS

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Mr. Ball, seconded by Ms. Berbary, to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 PM.

Ayes: All Noes: None Abstain: None Motion: Carried

Respectfully Submitted by Matthew Fincel, Secretary to the Historical Preservation Commission