



City of Hagerstown, Maryland  
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## MINUTES - HAGERSTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

**Date:** May 12, 2022  
**Time:** 4:30 P.M.  
**Location:** City Council Chambers, Second Floor, City Hall, 1 East Franklin Street  
**Attendance:**

Name	In-Person	Remote	Absent
Michael Gehr, Chairperson	X		
Leslie Allen, Vice Chairperson	X		
Robert Powell	X		
W. Douglas Carroll	X		
Christopher George		X	
Matthew Chilton			X
Vacancy	-	-	-
Staff and Ex-Officio Members:			
S. Bockmiller, Development Review Planner and Zoning Administrator	X		
A. Haught, Recording Secretary	X		

### Preliminary Matters:

- Call to Order and Instructions from the Chair** - The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 4:33 P.M. Attendance of members and staff are reflected in the chart above. The Chair read the standard instructions to applicants regarding order of business into the record.
- Addition to Agenda:** Staff requested that Case HDC-2022-23 – Victoria Pembroke, 1018 Oak Hill Avenue, for a fence be added to the agenda. Mr. Carroll made a motion to **add this case** to the agenda. Mr. Powell seconded the motion which was **approved** by a vote of 5-0.
- Approval of Minutes** – None.

### Application Review:

- Consent Agenda** – None.
- Reviews** -

#### **HDC-2022-22 – Donna M. Jones, 36 North Potomac Street – Window lettering.**

The applicant failed to appear at the meeting.

**Action:** (Powell/Carroll): I move to **table** this application to the next meeting. Motion was **approved** by a vote of 5-0.

**HDC-2022-23 – Victoria Pembroke – 1018 Oak Hill Avenue – fence.** There being no staff report, Mr. Bockmiller summarized the application. The Applicant proposes to install a 4-foot tall wood gothic picket fence in the back yard in locations where an existing similar fence does not yet enclose the yard (see drawing in application file). Staff recommended approval as the request is consistent with the Residential District Design Guidelines as it pertains to fences.

Ms. Pembroke explained that there is an existing 4-foot tall wood gothic picket fence in the rear yard, previously approved by the Commission. The proposed fence would match or come close to matching the existing fence. The fence is in a rear yard.

**Action:** (Carroll/Powell): Mr. Chairman, I have inspected the project plans and the property in question, and if constructed in accordance with these plans, the project is compatible with the character of the district for the reasons that the fence is consistent with an existing Design Guidelines compliant fence on the property and will be generally in harmony with the Architectural Design Guidelines for the Residential Historic Districts and the character of the adjoining properties. Therefore, I move that the HDC **grant** a Certificate of Appropriateness to the Applicant for Case No. HDC-2022-23. There was no further discussion and the motion was **approved** by a vote of 5-0.

### Consultations and Workshops:

**Antietam Street Parking Deck – North side of the unit block of West Antietam Street – City of Hagerstown.** Presentation of preliminary site plan and building elevations were presented by City Engineer Rodney Tissue and project architect Jennifer Greenlee of Newcomer and Associates. The conceptual site plan and elevations are in the meeting file. The Commission saw no major issues with the project moving forward. The Commission did have some questions about the materials and permanence of large art features proposed for the building, such as the roof mounted sign, the large art panel on the front of the building, and the multi-story graphic scrim on the stair towers, as well as the building's visibility from the future stadium. The Commission had no issue with the general design, scale and proposed elevations.

**Former M&T Bank Building 32 North Potomac Street, - City of Hagerstown.** Presentation of proposed changes to the building were presented by Assistant City Engineer Jim Bender and project architect Jennifer Greenlee of Newcomer and Associates. The City purchased the building to move much of its customer service activity to the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of this building and the Economic Development Department will move from the Elizabeth Hager Center to the second floor of this building. The former bank's drive through window will be retained so the public can use it to pay water bills, parking tickets, etc. without having to enter the building. Elevations are in the meeting file. Most of the work involved the construction of a new elevator/stair tower to provide ADA access to the second floor, and enclosing the existing porch and relocating the current ATM machine to the front elevation. The Commission saw no major issues with the project moving forward. Staff noted that the Downtown Design Guidelines generally discourage having ATM machines right on the fronts of buildings, but in this case, the building is an E Resource (a non-contributing structure to the historic district).

### Historic District Commission Business:

**Preservation Awards** – Mr. Bockmiller said it was pointed out to him that there was a project completed recently that should be considered for a preservation award; that being the reconstruction of the Heyser Mansion wine cellar in City Park. He asked if the Commission would be willing to add this project to the list of awards for 2022. By consensus, the Commission agreed to add this to the list of awards to be presented. The presentation ceremony will be on May 17 at the beginning of the City Council meeting.

**Opening of Hatter's Plaza** – Mr. Bockmiller stated that the park is complete and all the fencing is down and the ribbon cutting will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 14.

### Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.



for Amy Haught, Recording Secretary