

**Town of Elkton**  
**Elkton Historic District Commission**  
**May 25, 2022**

**PRESENT:** Paula Newton, Chair; Mickey Thompson; Christine Hurschman; Jeanne D. Minner, Director of Planning; Nicholas Cannistraci, Planner I; David Beste, Esq., Legal Counsel

**ABSENT:** None

Ms. Newton called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. and stated that this is a meeting of the Historic District Commission and that a quorum was present. She stated that the Commission operates under the authority granted to it by the Town of Elkton. She further stated that the qualifications of the Commission members are on file with the Town of Elkton. The basis of the decisions of the Commission to be consistent with the Town's Ordinances, they are on file with the Town of Elkton and are hereby made a part of the record of each and every action of the Commission at today's meeting. Each application heard today is considered on its own merits and is not to be considered as establishing a precedent for any other application.

Ms. Newton stated the first item on the agenda was approval of the minutes from the April 27, 2022 meeting. She stated that she had three corrections. Ms. Newton asked if the commission had any other corrections. There were no other corrections.

**MOTION: Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes of April 27, 2022 subject to corrections. Ms. Hurschman seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.**

Ms. Newton introduced the second item on the agenda, which was the request of Julia Biedenback, representing Escapades, LLC, to place a 40 sq. ft. logo on the front façade at 170 West Main Street.

**Request by Escapades, LLC, represented by Julia Biedenback, for the placement of a 40 sq. ft. logo on the front façade at 170 West Main Street, Elkton, MD 21921.**

Present at the meeting to represent Escapades, LLC was Ms. Julia Biedenback. She introduced herself to the Commission.

Ms. Biedenback presented the request to the Commission. She stated that the request is to paint an “artistic representation” of their logo on the front of the building. She stated that it would be placed so that it could be visible from both Bridge Street as well as Main Street.

Ms. Newton emphasized to Ms. Biedenback that the Historic District Commission does not rule on the size of logos or signs. With that, Ms. Newton asked if any of the other members had any questions.

Mr. Thompson asked specifically what the business is and what meaning the logo represented. Ms. Biedenback stated that she plans to operate an escape room. The room is designed to accompany several or more people at a time. The logo depicts puzzle pieces interlocked together. The way an escape room works is quite similar to a puzzle. Mr. Thompson also asked what material will be used for the logo. Ms. Biedenback stated that she plans to use standard exterior paint.

Ms. Hurschman commented on the appearance of the logo. She stated that the uniformity of the logo is appealing. Ms. Newton also agreed and stated that she has no objections.

**MOTION: A motion was made by Ms. Hurschman to approve the request of Julia Biedenback representing Escapades, LLC, for the placement of a 40 sq. ft. logo on the front façade at 170 West Main Street. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Old Business**—Ms. Minner shared an update on the Holly Hall property. She stated that she engaged the services of an appraiser to appraise the Holly Hall building. After providing an update on the Holly Hall building, Ms. Newton asked Ms. Minner what the next steps would be. Ms. Minner stated that the next steps would include discussions with the property owner and to apply for grant programs.

Ms. Newton also asked about the applicants who had recently proposed work on the Wedding Chapel and if anyone brought any proposed building materials to the Town for discussion. Ms. Minner informed the Commission that they had not yet done so.

Ms. Minner also provided an update on historic Elk Landing. She stated that there are preparations underway to restore the master bedroom and slaves quarters in the mansion. However, much of the grant money received will go towards a historic structures report.

Ms. Minner asked for an update on the Cecil County Historical Society. Ms. Newton provided the update and stated that the Cecil County Historical Society may acquire ownership of the building in which the society has run its operation. Cecil County currently owns the building but has considered gifting it to Cecil County Historical Society.

**New Business**—There was no new business to discuss.

Ms. Hurschman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Thompson seconded. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.