



TOWN OF LA PLATA
Historic Preservation Commission Minutes
March 20, 2026, 11:00 AM
Regular Meeting
Council Conference Room, La Plata Town Hall
305 Queen Anne St.
La Plata MD

PRESENT: Chair Rich Gilpin
Mary Beth Chandler
Jane Hobbs

ABSENT: Vice Chair Steuart Bowling

TOWN STAFF: Don Dooley, Director of Planning
Kelly Phipps, Director of Legislative Services
Lucinda Anderson, Special Events Coordinator

GUESTS:

1. Call to Order

In the absence of the Town Clerk, Director Phipps recorded meeting minutes.

Attendees, please use meeting courtesy. Virtual attendees are asked to mute microphones when joining the meeting. Participants may be muted by the Town Clerk, and meetings will be recorded.

In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, the public has the right to view/listen to the discussion only. At their discretion, the Finance Committee may allow participants to voice questions or provide comments on the topics under discussion. Written comments may be submitted via email to Legislative@townoflaplata.org

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Meeting ID: 258 482 113 801 02

Passcode: K2DX3Ei7

(Calendar Year: 2026)

1.2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Gilpin led all assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of Minutes

2.1. Approval of minutes from meeting on January 16, 2026.

Commissioner Chandler moved to approve the minutes as presented.

Moved By: Mary Beth Chandler, seconded by Jane Hobbs.

Passed Unanimously

1.3. Roll Call

Director Phipps conducted Roll Call.

3. Matters of Discussion

3.1. Adopted Town Council Resolution 26-11 Approving HPC Work Plan for 2025-2030

Director Dooley updated the commission on the Town Council's approval of the 2025-2030 Work Plan. Director Dooley and Councilman Guttenberg explained next steps for implementation of the Work Plan.

3.2. Adopted Town Council Resolution 26-14 Approving Centennial Plaque Program (HPC Work Plan Item No. 1)

Director Dooley updated the commission on the Town Council's approval of the Centennial Plaque Program. Subject to funding in the Fiscal Year 2027 budget, implementation of the program will commence in Fiscal Year 2027. A workgroup will be needed to advocate for property owner participation in the program.

4. Work Group Reports

4.1. Status update on the Maryland 250 Programs for La Plata (Work Plan Item No. 2)

Ms. Anderson provided an overview of planned activities in support of the Maryland 250th and other engagement opportunities for the commission.

Commissioner Hobbs moved to appoint Commissioner Chandler to the Maryland 250th subcommittee.

Moved By: Jane Hobbs, seconded by Paul Guttenberg.

Passed Unanimously

4.2. Status update on Historic Preservation Professionals List (Work Plan Item No. 3)

Director Dooley updated the commission on progress compiling this list. Additional updates will follow at the next meeting.

5. Matters of Information

5.1. Chair Report

Commissioner Chandler reported that the schoolhouse roadside plaque should be installed within the month.

Director Dooley will provide updates on questions regarding maintenance and other ongoing projects and activities.

5.2. Town Council Report

Councilman Guttenberg suggested that adopting Rules of Procedure should be prioritized and requested that staff develop meeting procedures.

5.3. Staff Report

Director Dooley reported that Kathy Dodson Hancher has resigned from the commission. A successor will be solicited.

6. Public Comment

No public speakers were present at this meeting.

7. Adjourn

Commissioner Chandler moved to adjourn at 12:46 PM.

Moved By: Mary Beth Chandler, seconded by Jane Hobbs.

Passed Unanimously

Submitted by:

Shelby Pritchett, Town Clerk