



City of Helen

Planning, Design and Review Board

P. O. Box 280

Helen, GA 30545



*The City of Helen is an equal
opportunity provider and employer*

Tuesday, October 22nd, 2024 Planning and Design Review Board Agenda

706-878-2733—main

706-878-1655—fax

PDRB Secretary:

Jonah Casper

PDRB Chairman:

Dona McAllister

Board Members:

David Greear

Randy Summers

Ralph Hofer

Bruce Pomeroy

Chris Williams

Dona K. Burke

1. Call meeting to order

2. Approval of the Agenda

3. Approval of minutes from previous meeting

4. Sign Submittals

- a. Pierre Maalouf is requesting approval for a new sign for the haunted house. The sign will look like the temporary sign that is currently in place, but will be a permanent sign made of wood, and the new name will be "Haunted Haus".

5. Special Events

- a. Pierre Maalouf is requesting approval for a special event on November 29, 2024 for the "Lighting of Tiny Towne". This event will coincide with the city's "Lighting of the Village" that is held annually.
- b. Alan Laney is requesting approval for a special event that will be used for a fundraiser to help those affected by hurricane Helene. The event will be held at the Festhalle on November 9, 2024. All proceeds will go to the victims of the storm.
- c. Robin Roberts Promotions LLC is requesting approval for the annual Helen Arts and Crafts Festival at Unicoi Hill Park. The event is scheduled for September 19-21, 2025.



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Tuesday, October 22nd, 2024 Planning and Design Review Board Minutes (pg 1)

The PDRB met on Tuesday, October 22, 2024 at Helen City Hall with chairman Linda McAllister calling the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Board members present were Bruce Pomeroy, Dona Burke, Ralph Hofer, David Greear, and Chris Williams.

Approval of the agenda was motioned by Dona Burke and second by Ralph Hofer. This motion was approved by all members present.

Approval of the minutes recorded from the previous meeting was motioned by David Greear and second by Dona Burke. The motion was to make a slight change to the minutes regarding the public hearing. This motion was approved by all members present.

Signs

- a. Pierre Maalouf requested approval for a sign for the haunted house connected to Tiny Towne. The name of the sign had to be changed from "Haunted Helen" due to conflicts with the previous owner. The sign had been deemed controversial by the church that neighbors the sign, so the board recommended that Mr. Maalouf remove the fake blood splatter from the sign, as well as touch up the housing around the sign. A motion to approve the sign with these conditions came from Chris Williams and was second by Bruce Pomeroy. This motion was approved by all members present.

Special Events

- a. Pierre Maalouf requested approval for an event permit for the "Lighting of Tiny Towne" on Nov. 29, 2024. This event is to coincide with the city's "Lighting of the Village" and will be an event that is held inside Mr. Maalouf's building. The permit is needed for him to be able to use the grass area to park cars for his customers during the event, and not for paid parking.

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Tuesday, October 22nd, 2024 Planning and Design Review Board Minutes (pg 2)

Special Events (cont.)

PDRB Secretary:

Jonah Casper

PDRB Chairman:

Dona McAllister

Board Members:

David Greear

Randy Summers

Ralph Hofer

Bruce Pomeroy

Chris Williams

Dona K. Burke

- a. The board briefly discussed whether or not this should classify as a special event. Helen Police Chief Aletha Barrett interjected and made it known that having the grass area open for parking cars for the event will help alleviate traffic and parking concerns during the city's event, as well as adding that city resources will be impacted by the private event, so it therefore qualifies as a special event per city ordinance. The board also deliberated on the event not being presented within the 2-month period, but it was not known until October 15th that Mr. Maalouf would need a special event permit in order to park cars in the grass area in front of his building. A motion to approve the event was made by Chris Williams and was second by Bruce Pomeroy. This motion was approved by all members except for David Greear who was opposed.
- b. Alan Laney requested approval for a hurricane relief concert to be held at the Festhalle on November 9th, 2024. All proceeds will go towards the storm victims and to help with the relief effort. A motion to approve the event was made by Chris Williams and second by Bruce Pomeroy. The motion was approved by all members except for David Greear who abstained.
- c. Robin Roberts Promotions LLC requested approval for the annual Helen Arts and Crafts Festival for September 19-21, 2025. The event was tabled to next meeting due to conflicting views regarding where the event is to be held at (Unicoi Hill Park). The motion to table was made by David Greear and was second by Dona Burke. This motion was favored by all members present.

Adjourn

Meeting was called to adjourn at 9:48 am with a motion from Dona Burke and a second by Ralph Hofer. All members present were in favor.

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**Tuesday, October 22nd, 2024
Planning and Design Review Board
Minutes (pg 3)**


PDRB Secretary:

Jonah Casper

APPROVED BY:

PDRB Chairman:

Linda McAllister



CHAIRPERSON:
Linda McAllister

11-12-24
DATE

Board Members:

David Greear

Randy Summers

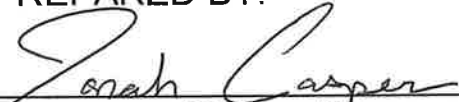
Ralph Hofer

Bruce Pomeroy

Chris Williams

Dona K. Burke

PREPARED BY:



BUILDING AND ZONING ADMINISTRATOR:
Jonah Casper

11-12-24
DATE