

Historic Preservation Commission
September 27, 2016 Special Called Meeting Minutes

DRAFT

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: Vice-Chair Pamela Sue Anderson, Commissioner Rae Lynn Tipping and Commissioner Sharon Whitaker. Commissioner Paul Emerson arrived at 6:05.

Absent: Chairperson Jerry Hodges

Staff present: Principal Planner Joelle Jordan and Planning Technician Kerstin Harding

Also present: Local Legend Selection Committee members Kami Barron, Jesus Garcia, Rufus Honeycutt, and Tina Steiner

C. Election of Officers

C.1 Consider the nominations and election of a Chair and Vice-Chair.

Motion: by Commissioner Tipping and Second by Commissioner Whitaker to nominate Commissioner Pamela Sue Anderson as Chair.

Vote: Aye: Vice-Chair Anderson, Commissioner Tipping, and Commissioner Whitaker. Nay: none. The vote was 3-0.

Motion: by Commissioner Whitaker and Second by Chairman Anderson to nominate Commissioner Rae Lynn Tipping as Vice-Chair.

Vote: Aye: Vice-Chair Anderson, Commissioner Tipping, and Commissioner Whitaker. Nay: none. The vote was 3-0.

D. Approval of Minutes

D.1 Consider approval of the minutes of the June 21, 2016 Historic Preservation Commission meeting.

Motion: by Vice-Chair Tipping and Second by Commissioner Whitaker to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2016 meeting as submitted.

Vote: Aye: Chair Anderson, Vice-Chair Tipping, and Commissioner Whitaker. Nay: none. The vote was 3-0.

E. Presentations

E.1 Consider a presentation and action concerning a Certificate of Appropriateness for changes to 119 E. Main Street.

Principal Planner Joelle Jordan gave a brief summary of the case. In April the HPC issued a CofA for paint and other changes relating to a tenant change at 119 E. Main Street. An administrative CofA was issued in July for sign brackets and mountings. When the project was being inspected prior to the Certificate of Occupancy release, staff noted that a few additional changes had been made that require a CofA. The front canopy and part of the sign pole had been painted black, and a wrought iron gate had been installed in place of a wooden gate at the back of the property. A change of paint color can be reviewed administratively, but painting a previously unpainted surface requires a CofA issued by the Commission.

Ms. Jordan presented the staff recommendations: that the gate was appropriate, and that the canopy and pole shouldn't have been painted. The canopy dates to 1965 and is not consistent with the building's period of significance (the 1920s-30s), so the paint was less of an appropriateness issue. The sign pole, however, dates to around the 1920s and is the last one left downtown (one photo shows several businesses on the block with similar sign poles). Unfortunately, removing the paint is difficult, so staff recommended allowing the painted part to remain, but that the rest of it should remain unpainted.

Motion: by Vice-Chair Tipping and Second by Commissioner Whitaker to approve the new wrought iron gate, and to allow the front canopy to remain painted black. The painted part of the sign pole may remain painted. The unpainted part may not be painted; a clear protectant with a non-gloss finish approved by staff may be used if necessary.

Vote: Aye: Chair Anderson, Vice-Chair Tipping, and Commissioner Whitaker. Nay: none. The vote was 3-0.

Commissioner Emerson arrived at 6:05

E.2 Consider a presentation and recommendation from the Local Legend Selection Committee and action concerning the 2016 Local Legend Award nominations.

Ms. Jordan asked the members of the Local Legend Award Selection Committee who were present to introduce themselves: Kami Barron, Jesus Garcia, Rufus Honeycutt, and Tina Steiner. Ms. Barron announced the group's carefully considered selections for the 2016 Local Legend Awards: Jim Carothers, Jon Sloan, and the Immortal Ten.

Chair Anderson said that she liked that there was variety in the selections, and that there were three of them. Commissioner Emerson asked Ms. Barron to explain the Committee's decision process. Ms. Barron said that after all the advertising that staff had done, there were only two nominations, one of which was selected, the other rejected. The other two were nominated by the Committee. She said that the Committee had discussed other ways to encourage nominations, and asked whether the Commission would consider appointing next year's Committee earlier so that they would have time for nomination outreach. Chair Anderson said she liked the idea of outreach. Commissioner Emerson asked if there would be a challenge or conflict with other community awards. Ms. Barron said that she did not anticipate any, and that the Committee wanted to find people out there that they don't already know about. Ms. Jordan explained the typical schedule leading to the Local Legend Awards, suggesting that appointments could be made in January instead of May..

Motion: by Commissioner Whitaker and Second by Vice-Chair Tipping to adopt the Selection Committee's 2016 Local Legend Award recipients: Jim Carothers, Jon Sloan, and the Immortal Ten.

Vote: Aye: Chair Anderson, Vice-Chair Tipping, Commissioner Emerson, and Commissioner Whitaker. Nay: none. The vote was 4-0.

Chair Anderson announced a short break and the meeting was reconvened at 6:25.

E.3 Consider the introduction of new commissioners and a presentation from the Chair concerning meeting procedures.

Chair Anderson welcomed the Commissioners and noted that former Chair Jerry Hodges has resigned from the Commission for personal reasons. Commissioners and staff introduced themselves and welcomed new Commissioner Whitaker.

E.4 Consider a presentation and discussion regarding a draft report on the feasibility of relocating the Stagecoach Inn.

Ms. Jordan reviewed the staff comments on the draft report; that the analysis of the history of the structure and appropriate measures to preserve it were informative but that the section of the report regarding costs that would be incurred was incomplete. She also noted some ways that the report could be reorganized to briefly and clearly state the options and costs of relocating and preserving the inn, and then asked the Commissioners what feedback they wanted to provide to the consultant.

Several Commissioners questioned some of the costs listed, and requested citations for the sources of the estimates. They discussed contingencies that might emerge in the course of relocating, and suggested that there may be some work that could be performed by volunteers. Commissioner Whitaker questioned the consultant's assessment of which potential site would best preserve the inn's historical context. Staff's and Commissioners' comments on the draft will be returned to the consultant September 30, 2016.

E.5 Consider a presentation and update on the 2016 Partial Tax Exemption for Historically Significant Sites program.

Ms. Jordan briefly summarized the results of the 2016 exemptions as they were adopted by the Council in July. She noted that particularly in the last year the process has become more efficient and the maintenance assessments more thorough. The Commissioners discussed other measures that might improve the program, such as specifying the necessary degree of repair, e.g. not just repainting but sanding off the loose paint first.

E.6 Consider a presentation concerning recent administrative Certificates of Appropriateness.

Ms. Jordan referred to a list of administrative Certificates of Appropriateness, noting that in the past year most of the administrative certificates were related to more detailed features of larger projects that had been reviewed by the HPC rather than for unrelated small projects. She summarized how two projects that the HPC had issued Certificates for had progressed through subsequent administrative Certificates.

E.7 Consider a presentation and update on the Round Rock Historic Preservation Education and Awareness Program.

Ms. Harding summarized the preservation program's activities relating to public education and awareness, noting that in the last year most public outreach had focused on the Stagecoach Inn, Preservation Month, and the Local Legend Awards. Much of the media outreach relating to the Stagecoach Inn had been undertaken by the new nonprofit organization Round Rock Preservation, and the establishment of the organization itself will also be a major advance in improving community awareness of local history and preservation.

E.8 Consider discussion and development concerning the Historic Preservation Commission's 2016-2017 goals.

Ms. Jordan referred to the Commission's goals for the previous year, and explained that the mission statement and four primary goals do not change from year to year, but the secondary goals changed to reflect its current projects and priorities. The Commissioners discussed ongoing projects, projects that had been completed, and projects that might be undertaken. These comments will be used to update the goals document, which will be presented for discussion and adoption at the next meeting.

F. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kerstin Harding
Planning Technician