
Historic District Commission

Meeting Minutes October 10, 2019

Members present: Rhonda Dempster, Murray Dennis and Danielle Stein

Members absent: Marguerite Knight Erwin and Skipper Holloway

Also Present: Roland Soignet, Jr. Zoning Administrator & Asst. Public Works Director, and Ruby Maggio, Secretary

Ms. Stein called the meeting to order.

Ms. Dempster moved to accept the minutes as presented for the June 13, 2019 meeting, the motion was seconded by Ms. Dennis. All board members present were in favor.

Ms. Stein the item on the agenda was to review new guidelines for the Historic District Commission. Ms. Stein commented we wanted to have something to give to applicants so we can get as much information about the property as possible and also give them some guidelines since we're just advisory. These guidelines were pulled from the National Trust website for recommendations for Historic Preservation since a lot of people may come before the commission and want to renovate a historic property but may not have any kind of direction. This will give them some direction and guidelines of best practices and is something that will be handed to them when they apply for their permit so that way everybody will have that and the application is general information about the property itself. Ms. Maggio suggested that a phone number or email address be added to it for contact information. Ms. Dempster stated another thing she added to it was to attach photos for us to be able to see. Ms. Stein commented that way we can see if we think it is historically accurate to the property and see what they're proposing because sometimes they say something and we may not understand it and having pictures is always a lot more clear. Ms. Dempster motioned to accept the application and guidelines as presented with the stipulation that a section for the applicant's phone number and email address and also Ms. Ruby's phone and email for their contact information be added, the motion was seconded by Ms. Dennis, all members present were in favor.

Ms. Stein asked if there was anything else anybody had to discuss. Ms. Dempster stated she is a representative for certified local government for the Historic Property Division of the City and yesterday she received a nomination form from the state asking to fill out a nomination form for the Harvey Peltier, Sr. house which is Donald Rouse's house to be put on the National Registry for historic places. There was also a CD with the pictures of the inside and outside of the house included. I emailed her and told her that we were having this meeting and she said to pass it by this committee to find out whether or not we would want to fill out this application and nominate them. It is up to us to decide whether or not we want to go ahead and fill this out and send it back to them. Ms. Stein asked if the property owner been contacted to see if they want to be listed on the National Register because sometimes for whatever reason they choose not to. Ms. Dempster stated it must have come from them because they have inside pictures of the house. Ms. Dennis stated I feel like if we are going to be filling in a paper we should be in contact with Mr. Rouse, I would imagine he knows about it but just as a courtesy. Ms. Dempster stated she would reach out to him tomorrow and also wanted to see if they wanted her to go forward with that. Ms. Stein and Ms. Dennis replied they thought that would be a good idea.

Ms. Stein asked if there was anything further to discuss, if not, meeting adjourned.