Historic District Commission

Meeting Minutes August 19, 2021

Members present: Cody Blanchard, Rhonda Dempster, Marguerite Knight Erwin

Members absent: Murray Dennis and Laura Fanguy

Also Present: Ruby Maggio, Secretary

Ms. Erwin called the meeting to order and stated we have a quorum of three out of five commissioners.

Ms. Dempster moved to accept the minutes as presented for the February 11, 2021 meeting, motion was seconded by Mr. Blanchard. All board members present were in favor, motion carries 3 to 0.

Ms. Erwin noted the item on the agenda was to review proposed 3' tall wrought iron fence with 10" high brick wall with 4.5' brick posts separating the fence proposed by Lance Ledet for Peter Liechty at 527 Canal Boulevard. Lance Ledet of 714 St. Philip St. came forward and stated that they were looking to put in a old St. Louis brick fence separated with brick posts and do a wrought iron in between with a double wrought iron gate at 527 Canal Boulevard for Peter Liechty and Cherish Benoit. The fence would be composed of about a 10" high chain wall at the bottom with a 3' high wrought iron fence on top and then the posts would be 4 1/2' tall. The total length of the fence is about 70' across the property. Ms. Erwin asked if he would be attaching it to the existing similar fence next door that has been there and how will that be and are you going to leave yours as old Chicago? Mr. Ledet replied leaving it as old St. Louis and he is not attaching to the existing fence next door. Ms. Dempster asked if they would be the same height. Mr. Ledet replied it would be a little bit lower because the post to the left of the driveway is a little over 5'. Ms. Erwin asked is your post next to the post that is next door, will there be two double posts where people can't see? Mr. Ledet replied it will be post, the driveway and then another post, we're not connecting anything next door and a metal post will be next to the existing post. He stated there will be a double gate across the driveway whenever the back yard is done, so it will be Tim's post, then it will be metal post next to Tim's post, then the driveway and then another brick post. Ms. Erwin stated so on the opposite side so it won't be next to each other so it won't block sight view. Ms. Dempster asked when the gate comes up is that metal post going to stay there. Mr. Ledet replied yes, the metal post isn't even coming in to play until that gate goes up. Mr. Blanchard replied so it will be like Tim's gate. Ms. Erwin stated she just didn't want to, the driveway entrance is right there, she didn't care about blocking to the left because it is a one way street, it is about safety, sight blocking to the right and then she was thinking about safety, sight blocking for Tim to come out which is why she didn't want two double posts there because it is such a busy road. She asked what the wrought iron toppers will look like. Mr. Ledet replied it will be a ball finial. Ms. Erwin asked if that was what the other one was. Mr. Ledet stated the other ones have just a straight picket, this one will be a little more decorative. Ms. Dempster and Ms. Erwin stated all of their questions were answered. Ms. Dempster made a motion to approve the 3' tall wrought iron fence with the 10" brick wall with 4.5' brick post, it was seconded by Mr. Blanchard, all members present were in favor, motion carries 3 to 0.

Ms. Dempster stated she would also like to add something to the agenda, we need to appoint a chairperson for this committee, do I open for discussion? Blanchard stated do we have other business on the agenda or do we have to make a motion to amend the agenda? Ms. Erwin replied we should make a motion to add this because there is not a line item for other business and in order to amend the agenda it has to be by acclamation. Ms. Dempster stated she wanted to make a motion to amend the agenda to add other business for Item #6, the motion was seconded by Mr. Blanchard, all members present were in favor, motion carries 3 to 0. Ms. Dempster stated under other business she would like to make a motion to nominate Marguerite Knight Erwin as our chairperson for the Thibodaux Historic District Commission, the motion was seconded by Mr. Blanchard. Ms. Erwin replied she would accept the nomination, are there any further nominations? If not, nominations are now closed by acclamation. Is there any other business, if not Cody is a new board member, thank you so much for joining, also, they may not have told you, you do have to do continuing ed so we can stay compliant with our requirements. Meeting adjourned at 4:14.