

THE MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
AUGUST 8, 2022

A regular meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission was held on Monday, August 8, 2022 at 5:30 P.M. in the conference room at City Hall.

Members present: Everall Peele
 Louise Price
 Frank Reid
 Beth Pulliam
 Charles Yarbrough

Members absent: Blanche Hailey

Staff present: Debbie Galloway, Planner
 Jeff Alderman, Planner

Others present: Scotty Eanes

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Reid. Mrs. Galloway introduced Jeff Alderman to the Commission.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of a regular meeting on June 13, 2022 were presented to the Commission. Mrs. Pulliam made a motion that the minutes be approved. Mr. Yarbrough seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

NORMAN WOODLIEFF MURAL.

Mrs. Galloway said she had hoped to get the case report finished but had not been able to do so. She said she planned to get it submitted to the SHPO and bring to the Commission by next month. She also thanked Mrs. Price for all the information she had provided on Norman Woodlieff.

BUDGET AND PROJECT DISCUSSION.

Mrs. Galloway reported that the Commission had been given \$5,000 in this year's budget. She said that Chair Hailey wanted to make sure the Neighborhood Workshops project was included on the project list.

Mr. Alderman said he had recently attended a workshop where it was suggested that commissions hold workshops for local realtors regarding historic districts. There was discussion that this would be a good idea so that realtors would be able to inform property owners how historic designation impacted their property. Mrs. Price also said it might be a good idea to involve the Chamber of Commerce.

LOCAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION.

Mr. Eanes said he was there because he had some question about what the requirements are for properties with local landmark designation. He said he thought the designation required the owners to maintain their properties. He was particularly referring to the Little Red Schoolhouse, and the fact that the grass was not being mowed.

Mrs. Galloway explained what local designation means and the requirements to maintain local designation status; she also explained the difference between local designation and National Register designation. She said the requirements to maintain the property, i.e., mowing grass, etc., is no different than any other property, and that this is governed by the nuisance ordinance. She explained that local designation pertains to the historic features of the property, not the physical upkeep, such as mowing, etc.

There was discussion about when a locally designated property might lose their tax credits. It was noted that the tax credits only apply to property taxes, and that they could be lost if the property's historic integrity is diminished or destroyed. It was noted that the property taxes on the Little Red Schoolhouse are minimal, and that the taxes are up to date.

Mr. Eanes said he understood this better now, and he thanked the commission members for explaining this to him.

TRAINING REQUIREMENTS.

Mrs. Galloway said she had received comments from the SHPO regarding the Certified Local Government (CLG) report, which is submitted annually. She said the only area where the Commission is lacking is in required annual training. She said the requirements state that staff and at least two (2) commission members are required to complete three (3) training requirements each year in order to maintain the City's CLG status. She said in the past, this required attendance in training sessions throughout the year, but now much of this training can be done on line. Mrs. Galloway provided the commission members with links to available on-line training sessions. She said these need to be completed by September 30. There is also a reporting form that must be submitted to get credit for the training.

Mr. Alderman reported that he had just attended an SHPO workshop in Elon, which will count as one of this year's training requirements. He made a report on the workshops he attended.

ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION.

SPRAY TRAFFIC CIRCLE FOUNTAIN UPDATE.

Mrs. Galloway said there was some support on Council for the fountain project. She said the Planning Department is currently in the process of getting information from NCDOT about requirements and approval process for such a project.

GUS SHINN MURAL.

Mrs. Pulliam asked for an update on the mural project. Mrs. Galloway said they still had not found a location for the mural. There was discussion about the desire to keep it in Spray, and several locations were discussed. Mrs. Galloway said she would keep looking. There was also discussion about installing a mural on panels like the one in Leaksville. Mrs. Pulliam noted that Gus Shinn would turn 100 years old in September.

CHARLIE POOLE ANNIVERSARY.

Mrs. Price said that 2025 would be the 100th anniversary of Charlie Poole's first recording. She hoped the Commission could be proactive in planning some type of recognition of this.

BOOKS.

Mrs. Peele said that the books had not been moving lately on e-bay. There was discussion about trying to promote them locally and asking if downtown merchants would be willing to sell them.

BARNETT CEMETERY.

Mrs. Price asked that the Barnett family cemetery (located off of Carroll St.) be kept on the project list for possible cleanup and preservation. Mrs. Galloway also said they should keep the Reynolds family cemetery (located off of Country Club Dr.) on the project list as well.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra W. Galloway, Administrative Assistant
to the Eden Preservation Commission

Attest:

Blanche Hailey, Chair