

## FAIRHOPE HISTORIC PRESERVATION

### COMMITTEE

Minutes from the meeting of March 4, 2016:

#### Attendees:

Gary Gover	Joe Birindelli	Sissy Birindelli
Rich Mueller	Donnie Barrett	Jonathan Smith
Dale Mozley	Paul Mozley	Linda Jones
Harriet Gutknecht	Stephen McNair	Ross Hobbs

February Minutes are approved.

#### Ordinance:

The Ordinance has recently been reviewed by the City Council and city attorney. Rich distributed two copies of the 'modified' Ordinance to all Committee members. A 'colored' copy modified the document, while a 'grey' copy deleted portions of the Ordinance in order for it to comply with the state. He discussed the proposed changes, line-by-line and page-by-page, pointing out areas that need further clarification. Some articles are too vague and some leave out critical information, i.e., term limits on Commission members are not addressed and requirements may be too restrictive; the number of Commission members is not stated; page 6 article III is completely omitted; page 11 section (c) calls for a Technical Advisory Committee to advise the Commission, and may not be necessary as the Commission members are required to have professional qualifications in the fields of history, archeology, architecture, urban planning, or law, or be a resident of an historic district property; page 11 section (i) is too vague allowing the property owner to proceed as planned even without the Letter of Approval; page 12 section 3.6 addresses the maintenance and neglect of historic properties but does not discuss the procedure that would need to be taken when such a property is identified nor does it require the owner to fix the problem. It does not mention any consequences, such as losing its tax benefit or Historic Designation, if the deterioration is not corrected.

The Ordinance requires that a Letter of Approval be applied for. A permit may be denied if there is no application.

Rich requests that the Committee members review the documents, compare them to the original Ordinance, and make suggestions to Gary who will consolidate the remarks before passing them back to him within the next two weeks.

A copy of the Ordinance will be sent to Mary Shell, who works for the State Historic Commission, for her input.

Mr. Stephen McNair, owner and consultant of McNair Historic Preservation, Inc. introduced himself to

the Committee and offered his expertise and knowledge toward working on the Ordinance. Rich may be able to request some funding for his service.

Treasured Home Historic Yard-Sign:

The members approved the 18" x 24" rectangular sign-draft in white with black lettering and a gold border. Linda will follow-up on ordering the sign.

Comprehensive Plan:

The Plan will not appear on the city council agenda. It will ultimately be approved and adopted by the Planning Commission and City Council members.

Other Business:

The city will discuss the Public Parking Garage Project with Dan Burden during the week of April 7. A budget of \$35,000 has been set aside to beautify the parking area.

Harriet will meet with Sherry Sullivan to discuss publicity for the updated historic survey.

During the recent Arbor Day event, beautification awards were given for the restoration of two historic properties. One recipient was the Citizen's Bank on Section Street and the other a property on Fairhope Ave.

Treasury:

There is currently \$18,695.88 in the treasury.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Thursday April 7, 2016 @ 9:30 am at the Fairhope Museum.

minutes prepared by Linda Jones, FHPC Secretary