

Minutes
Regular Meeting of the
Aberdeen Historic Preservation Commission

October 21, 2013
Monday, 5:00 p.m.

Robert N. Page Municipal Building
Aberdeen, North Carolina

The Aberdeen Historic Preservation Commission met on Monday, October 21, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. for the Regular Meeting. Members present were Kam Hurst, Mollie Wilson, Ernestine Chapman, Mike Lashley, and Jon Ring. Others in attendance were Planning Director Pamela Graham, Permit Technician Amy Fulp, and Planner Jane Tercheria. Art Parker was also present but had arrived late.

1. Call to Order

Planning Director Graham called the meeting to order at 5:08 p.m.

2. Election of Officers

Planning Director Graham asked for nominations for the Chair position of the Historic Preservation Commission. Mollie Wilson nominated Kam Hurst for the position of Chair for the Historic Preservation Commission, seconded by Mike Lashley. Vote unanimous for Kam Hurst as Chairperson of the Aberdeen Historic Preservation Commission.

Chairperson Hurst asked for nominations for the Vice Chair position for the Historic Preservation Commission. Mike Lashley nominated Mollie Wilson for the position of Vice Chair of the Historic Preservation Commission, seconded by Jon Ring. Vote unanimous for Mollie Wilson as Vice Chairperson of the Aberdeen Historic Preservation Commission.

3. New Business

All parties who would like to give evidence or testimony were sworn in before doing so.

- a. Consideration of Certificate of Appropriateness COA #10-66 to install exterior metal staircase and door to carriage house at 214 North Poplar Street.

Planning Director Graham stated the one Certificate of Appropriateness we have tonight is #10-66 for the installation of an exterior metal staircase and door to the Carriage House at 214 North Poplar Street.

Planner Tercheria stated the historic name of this house is the Bryant House. They are requesting to install an exterior metal staircase and a door to the Carriage House.

Chairperson Hurst asked where the staircase will be. Planner Tercheria stated it will be in the alley on the side of the building. Jon Ring asked if this was a requirement for the occupancy of the upstairs. Planning Director Graham stated she is unsure if it is a building requirement, but it really should not influence their decision, that would be the building inspector's call. The Board's decision should be based on whether it is appropriate for the historic district.

Mollie Wilson asked what type of door would be used. Chairperson Hurst stated it says a metal door. Mollie Wilson stated maybe it would be better to table this until someone is here to answer questions. Planning Director Graham stated she didn't know if he meant metal door but the staircase is to be metal. It does bring up a good point as to what type door will be used, but the Board can specify the type in their motion.

Mike Lashley stated on a lot of the old buildings they did have an exterior stairway and most of the time they were metal. Looking at the pictures, the staircase will be pretty much hidden from the road. Planning Director Graham stated it may not be clear in the application that was filled out, but the staircase will be as you face the front of the garage doors it is on the right side.

Chairperson Hurst asked if they were going to take the window and turn it into a door. Planning Director Graham stated she did not have the answer.

Chairperson Hurst asked if it were appropriate for them to go and look at the properties before the meetings and Planning Director Graham stated yes.

Mollie Wilson asked if they knew what color they are painting or if they are going to paint. Planning Director Graham stated the only thing Mr. Parker discussed with her was where it was going to be installed. It would be helpful if he was here, but since he is not one option you have would be to put in your conditions those items that you feel would allow this to comply with the design guidelines.

Mollie Wilson stated there are a lot of questions that someone should be here to answer, can they table this and get someone here at the next

meeting to talk to. Planning Director Graham asked, since she knows some of the interior work is already active on the site, if the Board doesn't feel comfortable making a decision tonight they might try and have a special called meeting.

Mollie Wilson stated they are not sure of the placement, they are not sure of the materials to be used as far as the door and the color. It has been her experience in the past when you don't have the people here to answer the questions things happen that the Board can't predict.

Jon Ring asked why the applicant was not at the meeting. Planning Director Graham stated it is not a requirement for the applicant to be at the meeting but it is always helpful in case the Board has questions.

Planning Director Graham asked would they like to have a special called meeting, if they can arrange something, without having to wait another thirty days. Mollie Wilson stated she thought that would be so much better. Ernestine Chapman stated with all of the questions that needs to be answered it would be better if Mr. Parker were here so they could ask him questions, they don't want to assume what he is thinking.

Planning Director Graham contacted Mr. Parker and he was able to come to the meeting and was sworn in to answer questions from the Board.

Chairperson Hurst asked was there an inside stairwell. Mr. Parker stated there is an inside stairwell coming in from the left hand side off the driveway but it is not full size. It is just not a comfortable entrance so he wants to take a window and convert it to a door and the staircase will go out toward Sycamore.

Chairperson Hurst asked had they picked a door and Mr. Parker stated no. Chairperson Hurst stated with the Historic Preservation they require a wooden door be used.

Chairperson Hurst asked would there be lighting installed. Mr. Parker stated there will be a porch light. Chairperson Hurst asked would the lighting need to be approved. Planning Director Graham asked if he had picked out the lighting. Mr. Parker stated he had not picked out the lighting but he assumed he would have to come back before the Board concerning the awning so they could see the lighting at that time.

Mollie Wilson asked about the door color and would he keep the existing colors. Mr. Parker stated he had not gotten to that yet. Planning Director Graham stated the Board can put in their motion paint to match existing and if that is changed it can come back with the light and awning.

Planning Director Graham stated the staircase color was also in question. Mr. Parker stated he assumed it would be black.

A motion was made by Mollie Wilson, seconded by Jon Ring, that the applicant's proposal is compatible with the historic aspects of the Aberdeen Historic District with respect to the following criteria:

- Keeping the existing color will be satisfactory and if it changes it will be brought back before the Board
- Materials to be used are to be a wooden door (replacing a window) and a metal staircase to be installed on the south of the property extending down toward the east

Motion unanimously carried

4. Other Business

Planning Director Graham stated Mr. Parker had some sycamore trees evaluated by a tree company and it was determined they were diseased and infested with beetles. That particular item, if there is evidence of disease or damage to a tree, is a Staff approved Certificate of Appropriateness. That Certificate of Appropriateness has been issued and it looks like they are preparing to take a tree or two down.

Planning Director Graham stated we have had a proposal for a low volume convenience operation at the old Dog Nation building. That is allowed in the district and she has talked to the owner about what he is proposing to do and how he will move the cars through. We haven't seen any activity there lately but we think he is still planning on doing it.

Mike Lashley asked about the guy who was going to do the restaurant at the old tire store. Planning Director Graham stated he was so excited and we were so excited but there are some problems on that site with underground fuel tanks and he may have run into some complications.

Chairperson Hurst asked if they were going to do anything else for “Remembering Aberdeen”. Planning Director Graham stated photos that were taken was scanned and shown at a previous meeting, but they could certainly use more photos.

Mollie Wilson asked would there be a better day than parade day to try and get information and photos for “Remembering Aberdeen”. Kam Hurst stated a lot of people could not get to them on parade day to give information. Planning Director Graham asked did they need to piggy back onto something else or can it stand on its own. Mollie Wilson stated she felt like they could have an Aberdeen day or home-coming. Planning Director Graham stated having it during the holiday season would be a good idea because there would be people coming into town that once lived here but don’t any more.

Mike Lashley asked could they put the information they would like for “Remembering Aberdeen” in the Bon Accord. They could also ask people to meet them at the Aberdeen Café for a cup of coffee and to talk.

Mollie Wilson asked Chairperson Hurst if she could come up with a list of people and contact one or two at a time to see when they could meet and talk with some of the Board members. Planning Director Graham asked if the previous list they had was still good, and if so, she will email it to Chairperson Hurst.

Chairperson Hurst asked when there will be another Historic Preservation training. Planning Director Graham stated the Preservation North Carolina Conference is an annual event but there would be other training opportunities for one day training like they have seen before. She will do some research and see when there are some other training opportunities and send out an email.

5. Adjourn

A motion was made by Mollie Wilson, seconded by Jon Ring, to adjourn the meeting. Motion unanimously carried.

Amy Fulp, Permit Technician
Minutes were completed in
Draft form on December 6, 2013

Kam Hurst, Chairperson
Minutes were approved
on December 16, 2013