

Minutes
Regular Meeting of the
Aberdeen Historic Preservation Commission

February 6, 2014
Thursday, 4:00 p.m.

Robert N. Page Municipal Building
Aberdeen, North Carolina

The Aberdeen Historic Preservation Commission met on Thursday, February 6, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. for the Regular Meeting. Members present were Chairperson Kam Hurst, Mollie Wilson, Ernestine Chapman, and Jon Ring. Others in attendance were Planning Director Pamela Graham, Permit Technician Amy Fulp, Louise Lucas, Petra Moore, and Roger Moore.

1. Chairperson Hurst called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.
2. 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 #10-69 for new signs at 101 N. Sycamore Street (continued from 1/27).

Planning Director stated this COA #10-69 for a new wall sign was continued from the last meeting because they needed some more information from the business owners.

Mollie Wilson asked what the sign is made of. Louise Lucas stated the sign is made of poly aluminum. It is affixed already and made of poly metal with an aluminum face. Ms. Lucas stated they did order the sign so they could bring it to the Historic Preservation Commission to look at but they didn't realize at first that it had been put up and they didn't mean for it to be put up without approval. Jon asked if the sign is up there permanently. Ms. Lucas stated it is up the way it is supposed to stay up.

Jon Ring asked if the Eloise sign is the business logo. Ms. Lucas stated yes, that is what they try and put on everything. Jon Ring stated one of his concerns is the color brightness and modern design when looking at it from the historic perspective. If this is their logo then it is what it is and they have to figure out if it is appropriate or not. Jon Ring asked could they make the sign more subtle so that it fits in with the historic nature of the Historic District.

Mollie Wilson stated they need to be compatible in design, materials, and colors with the building site or district and to her the sign is very modern

looking. She thinks that if the background were different then it would be acceptable. Ms. Lucas stated everyone who has come into the store has said it looks beautiful, it is inviting, and it is bringing people in. She understands wanting to keep the historical feel but as far as being able to draw business into Downtown Aberdeen she thinks there is a lot of brown and gray.

Mollie Wilson stated she thinks if they remove the circles and tone down the color then it would be okay. Ms. Lucas asked if the circles were offensive to them. Chairperson Hurst stated it is not that they are offensive it is just that the Board has to go by the Historic Guidelines. Ms. Lucas stated they really didn't get much as far as guidelines on what they could order. Chairperson Hurst stated other businesses have come in with samples and designs and their signs are more historical looking.

Mollie Wilson asked if they could bring in some samples without all the graphics on it. Ms. Lucas stated she would have to talk to her partner. She is confused with all of the empty store fronts that don't look nice at all and they have come in and tried to do something nice. Their sign is not over the top but inviting.

Chairperson Hurst asked when someone comes in for a sign permit in the Historic District are they given a copy of the guidelines for signs. Planning Director Graham stated it is our policy to give them a copy of the section of the guidelines that pertains to their proposal but she is unsure if Betsy received one.

Planning Director Graham stated she wanted to clarify one thing; the guidelines that they go by are Aberdeen's guidelines and they are based on the Secretary of Interior Standards at the National Park Service level but they are modified to be specific to Aberdeen to some degree. But the Board is always going to have some flexibility as they make their decisions.

Planning Director Graham told Ms. Lucas that she does have an option of appealing the Board's decision or she can try to work with this Commission to see what might be more acceptable and if she is willing to make changes to the sign.

Jon Ring stated his desire would be for the applicant to work with the Board on the circles and the color of the sign. He doesn't think the pearl necklace and the color of green is keeping with the Historic District. If these changes are not made he thinks the application should not be approved.

Mollie Wilson asked could they have the sign company print out some more variations of the sign for the Board to review. Ms. Lucas stated she

would ask them. Mollie Wilson then asked should they table this until the next meeting.

Planning Director Graham stated that if a decision is not made tonight then we would pick this up again at the March meeting. She asked Ms. Lucas if she wanted to work with the Commission to get something that meets their requirements and bring it back to the next month's meeting. The second option would be to ask for a decision today so that she could appeal that decision. Ms. Lucas stated they will look at other options.

A motion was made by Mollie Wilson, seconded by Jon Ring, to table the consideration for COA #10-69 until March so that the owners have time to provide some other examples. Motion unanimously carried.

- b. Consideration of Certificate of Appropriateness COA #10-70 for a detached garage at 113 Campbell Street.

Planning Director stated Roger Moore is our applicant and his proposal is for a two car Garage in the rear of the residence at 113 Campbell Street.

Jon Ring asked if it were a kit and Mr. Moore stated no. Mr. Moore stated he has talked to a builder but he does not have any plans yet. When Planning Director Graham asked for a picture he found a sketch of a similar garage from Carolina Custom Builders and the only difference is it will have a door in the front.

Mollie Wilson asked about the angle on the roof of his house and could it be done on the garage to look the same. Petra Moore stated the garage is all the way in the back and cannot be seen unless you drive up in the driveway.

Mollie Wilson asked do they not have a garage now. Mr. Moore stated they do but the new garage would have a work place in it and that has been one of his goals since retirement. The garage they have now is a two car attached garage but you can only get one car in it the way it is situated.

Jon Ring asked what type of door they will have. Mr. Moore stated there will be two 9 x 7 steel garage doors and they will be the same color as the doors on the house.

Jon Ring stated the key is to matching things like doors, windows, and that sort of stuff to what the house is.

Chairperson Hurst asked if there will be windows. Mr. Moore stated there should be two windows on the side.

A motion was made by Jon Ring, seconded by Ernestine Chapman, that the applicant's proposal is in keeping with the historic aspects of the Historic District as long as the following criteria is followed:

- Height
- Setback and placement
- Materials to be used (texture and patterns, color of authorized) and including windows, doors, siding, and roofing.
- Architectural detailing
- Roof shapes, forms and materials
- Fenestration proportions, shapes, position, location, and pattern
- General form and proportions of buildings and structures

Mollie Wilson asked about the roof design and she would like it to echo the design on the roof on the house. She thinks it should echo the front view of the house according to the guidelines.

Mr. Moore stated he will talk to the builder and see if he can mimic the house roof.

Motion amended to include the distinctive features of the notched roof. Motion unanimously carried.

4. Other Business

Mollie Wilson asked about the mattress store on South Street and the fact that they have all kinds of stuff in the store and the hours of operation are on the door and they are never open. She would like to know if there is anything they can do.

Jon Ring mentioned that the van at the antiques shop on US 1 is still in place with expired tags and flat tires.

Planning Director Graham stated she will contact the mattress store and let them know it appears they are using it as storage which is not permitted. She will also have Staff follow up on the antiques store.

5. Adjourn

A motion was made by Ernestine Chapman, seconded by Chairperson Hurst, to adjourn the meeting. Motion unanimously carried.

Amy Fulp, Permit Technician
Minutes were completed in
Draft form on March 11, 2014

Kam Hurst, Chairperson
Minutes were approved
on March 17, 2014