

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SANFORD HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7:00 PM, MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2010
SANFORD MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

Roll Call:

Commissioners Present: Al Roethlisberger, Ed Page, David Nestor,
Brandon Atkins, Shannon Gurwitch

Commissioners Absent: Donnie Worley

Staff Present: Liz Whitmore, Anne Sears

Government Official Present: Councilman Charles Taylor, City Attorney, Susan Patterson

Citizens

**APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES (AS AMENDED) FOR
DECEMBER 28, 2009 AND THE AGENDA FOR JANUARY 25, 2010.**

Chairman David Nestor called the meeting to order, and called the roll.

Chairman Nestor asked for approval of agenda. Commissioner Roethlisberger moved to approve the agenda with an addition of an update from Commissioner Gurwitch on the Hawkins district and seconded by Commissioner Gurwitch and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Nestor asked for approval of the minutes. Commissioner Roethlisberger noted at this time that he had a correction for the minutes. Commissioner Roethlisberger stated he would like to state, that in the future all descending votes are annotated. Commissioner Roethlisberger moved to approve the minutes, as amended and seconded by Commissioner Atkins and the motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

- There was no Public Input on the Final Draft Rules and Procedures.
- Commissioner Gurwitch gave an update on the progress of Hawkins Avenue being nominated as a local district. A public meeting, which will be held on February 24th at the Lee County Library on Hawkins Avenue. A letter will be sent out to all property owners and residents of the area informing them and an ad will be placed in the paper. Staff Whitmore stated that a representative from the State Historic Preservation office has been informed of the meeting and someone from that office will attend.
- Staff Whitmore said that an ad was placed in the paper regarding the Final Draft on the Rules and Procedures. She also asked Commissioner Roethlisberger to put it on the Yahoo web-site and it was posted on the city web-site. There were no public comments at tonight's meeting.

Staff Whitmore said that we will move forward to Law and Finance and from there recommendations to City Council and from there to be adopted. City attorney, Susan Patterson explained the course and dates that it will follow. She explained that usually Rules and Procedure that govern how the board act's is not anything the public would ever comment on, but they do need to have a public hearing. (Usually the Rules and Procedures are drafted completely by staff and given to commission to follow.) Staff Whitmore mentioned that the Rules and Procedures were started before she was appointed to her position, and one reason that the process has been different is because Mrs. Whitmore has had the Commissions to help format the Rules and Procedure for their input as well as the appointed citizen committee. Staff Whitmore said they had chosen to go to City Council, because of the overhaul of the whole document, not having just one or two items discussed. Discussion continued among board members. Chairman Nestor asked if we could start looking at the guidelines, but Staff Whitmore noted that the Rules and Procedures need to be adopted first, and then to proceed with the guidelines.

- Staff Whitmore provided an example of the signage with three different colors, and a swatch of the color brown that would be used. The sign that is up now is white with black lettering. Money has been reallocated, and in a fund for signage. Commissioner Roethlisberger mentioned that one of the concerns that have been raised a few times is, that it will also be an investment in future standards, and we need to maintain a color. Commissioner Gurwitch asked Councilman Taylor what kind of response he has heard, and he relayed he has received good response overall. It was shared by several board members that a color theme usually runs through the town of a historic district, and that we would be setting a precedent for the future. Commissioner Roethlisberger made a motion that we enforce the original color design pallet for the Historic District signage which was white lettering on the brown background to replace the existing signage with that color combination, and seconded by Commissioner Atkins, and the motion made was two opposed and four for. Commissioner Shannon Gurwitch and Commissioner Ed Page opposed the changing of the signs.
- Staff Whitmore said they had taken a photograph of the house on Academy Street to locate the sign. Funds are available for signage there. Staff Whitmore will be contacting the property owner Doug Rowles. She shared that this is a city maintained road, so easement agreement with NC DOT is not necessary. Councilman Taylor relayed that during the day, Mr. Rowles can be reached at CEMC.
- Staff Whitmore briefed every one of the COA's that are pending. We have two COA's that will be majors at the next meeting. There are none to present at tonight's meeting. On Wednesday, February, 3rd is the date set for our annual retreat @ 5:30 pm until 9:30 pm at Elizabeth's Pizza. The agenda has been sent out. Staff Whitmore shared that Laura Phillips has completed all the photography of East Sanford, and she plans to have the research completed by February 12th. Staff Whitmore said that they did get the Oakwood house first floor boarded up, and explained that this will help to keep the vagrants out, and from starting fires to keep warm during the winter months. Staff Whitmore stated that we do have people interested in it, who would like to restore it and move into it. She mentioned that they had given the couple all the information they had regarding past ownership, or mortgages on the property.
- Meeting schedule for the HPC board for 2010 was e-mailed and also passed out among board members. Councilman Taylor asked about the way-finding signs that identify the

districts in town. Staff Whitmore stated that David Montgomery has been working with a consultant regarding this signage. Some of the signage will or will not reflect downtown, but if it does, it would have to come before Staff Whitmore as a minor for approval. There are a lot of colors that are dictated by N C DOT, and the purpose for this is to direct pedestrians.

- Next meeting date will be March 1, 2010.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business to come before the Chairman Nestor entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Gurwitch moved, and it was seconded by Commissioner Page and the motion passed unanimously.

Adopted this _____ day of _____

BY: _____

ATTEST: _____

Elizabeth Whitmore, Historic Planner II