

Historic District Commission

July 26, 2018

Minutes

Chairman William Blackwelder called the meeting of the Historic District Commission to order at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 26, 2018 at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

Present: Commissioners Andi Eddlemon, William Blackwelder (Chair), and Carol Hauer

Absent: Commissioners Richard Ruhlman and Ed Starr

Staff present: Charles Graham, Assistant City Attorney; Kim Wallis, Planner; and Chrystal Howard, Secretary

Chairman Blackwelder informed the Commissioners that Ms. Lynn Stepp was no longer a member of the Historic District Commission (HDC).

ITEM 1a. Roll Call / Sound Check

Chairman Blackwelder opened the meeting and declared a quorum.

ITEM 1b. Adoption of the Agenda

Commissioner Hauer made the motion to adopt the July 26, 2018 Agenda. Chairman Blackwelder seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously (3-0).

ITEM 1c. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Eddlemon made the motion to approve the June 28, 2018 minutes with Chairman Blackwelder seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Chairman Blackwelder stated because of the quasi-judicial format of the hearings, persons wishing to speak and offer evidence are required by North Carolina law to be sworn in or affirmed, and asked all speakers to come forward to be sworn in or affirmed. Speakers were sworn in by Ms. Chrystal Howard.

Chairman Blackwelder provided an explanation for public hearings on Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) applications and the order of business.

ITEM 2. Public Hearing – Certificate of Appropriateness (File # 9059)

- James Ballard
- 614 W. Twelfth Avenue
- Demolition of existing carport and new construction of garage

Chairman Blackwelder opened the public hearing recognizing Ms. Kim Wallis, Planner for the purpose of staff presentation.

Ms. Wallis stated the applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness to demolish an existing carport and to construct a new garage. The property is located in the Brookwood Historic District, was built in 1956, is zoned residential, is surrounded by other single-family homes, and is considered non-contributing to the district according to the Brookwood Housing Inventory. Regarding demolition, the existing carport is near the back of house is to be demolished as its girders are too low (6'5") and some were bent in the past. A photo of the carport was displayed. Ms. Wallis continued by providing key elements of the new garage. Photos of the garage were displayed and explained. Ms. Wallis finished her presentation by reading the excerpts included in the staff report. No questions were asked by the Commissioners.

Chairman Blackwelder recognized Mr. James Ballard, 614 W. Twelfth Avenue of Gastonia, NC. Mr. Ballard stated he was present to answer any questions.

Commissioner Eddlemon thanked Mr. Ballard for coming this evening and asked if the new concrete will also serve as repair for the current driveway or only for the new section. Mr. Ballard answered that the new concrete will be for the new section leaving the existing driveway as it exists.

Chairman Blackwelder inquired about which garage style best represents the garage. Mr. Ballard stated the top left picture but the door will be on the opposite side. The pitch is between the top left and bottom picture. The garage color will be white. A decision has not been made on whether windows will be along the side of the building. The house has vinyl windows with black shutters and the garage will match the house windows and shutters.

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Commissioner Eddlemon stated having windows would look nice and Chairman Blackwelder agreed.

Brief discussed ensued on a previous Certificate of Appropriateness correlating to this property.

No further questions were asked by the Commissioners.

Commissioner Eddlemon made the motion to approve the request as presented and Chairman Blackwelder seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved (3-0).

ITEM 4. Other Business

A subcommittee meeting is needed tonight and all three Commissioners stated their availability to participate in the meeting. A subcommittee meeting followed.

ITEM 5. Adjournment

There being no other business, Chairman Blackwelder adjourned the meeting at 6:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Chrystal Howard, Secretary

William Blackwelder, Chairman