
LANDMARKS COMMISSION

January 27, 2004

Minutes

Members Present: Rick Weatherl
Kathy Aldridge
Weldon Wheatley
Pat Garren
Pebbles Lee
Michael McClellan
Ruby Perez

Members Absent: Phil Miller, Robert McCathren, alternate, observed the meeting

Staff Present: Elizabeth Grindstaff, Assistant Planning Director
Larry Abrigg, Planner III
Dan Santee, Assistant City Attorney

Mr. Weatherl called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM and declared a quorum present.

The minutes from the October 28, 2003, meeting were ready for approval. Ruby Perez made a motion to approve the minutes; Pat Garren made a second to the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item: CA-0803, Request from Linnie Ray to finalize paint and roof work and install a fence at 642 Sayles

Mr. Abrigg gave the staff report. Staff recommends approval with conditions that differ from the applicant's intentions. Mr. Weatherl opened the public hearing. The applicant, Ms. Ray appeared and spoke in favor of the request. There was a brief discussion among the Commission concerning the paint and roof work. There was discussion between the applicant and the Commission concerning the location, style and type of fence. The public hearing was closed. Ms. Aldridge, seconded by Mr. McClellan, made a motion, to approve the above request as applied for by the property owner to finalize the paint and roof work. Vote – Yes: Garren, Wheatley, Weatherl, Perez, McClellan, Lee, and Aldridge. No: None. Motion passed. A second motion was made by Ms. Garren and seconded by Mr. McClellan to approve the fence as requested by the applicant. Vote – Yes: Garren, Wheatley, Weatherl, Perez, McClellan, Lee, and Aldridge. No: None. Motion passed.

Agenda Item: CA-0104, Request from Carrie Blaschke to change exterior colors at her residence at 258 Clinton Street

Mr. Abrigg gave the staff report. If approved, the subject residence will have 4 exterior doors painted a dark green color from a light green color. Staff recommends approval as long as the paint color is from the Kelly Moore historic paint chart #KM860-N, dark green.

Mr. Weatherl opened the public hearing. The applicant appeared and spoke in favor of the request. The public hearing was closed. A motion was made by Mr. McClellan, seconded by Ms. Aldridge, to approve the request. Vote – Yes: Garren, Wheatley, Weatherl, Perez, McClellan, Lee, Aldridge. No: None. Motion passed.

Agenda Item: Z-04903, Request from Town West property owners to establish a Planned Development Historic District (PDH).

Mr. Abrigg gave the staff report detailing the chronological events that occurred while staff worked with the interested property owners and their desire for a historic district. Staff recommends approval of a historic district. Historic or conservation districts are recommended by the *1999 Historic Preservation Plan* and the *2004 Comprehensive Plan for the City of Abilene*.

Staff mailed out 289 meeting notices. Fourteen were returned unopened, 26 were returned in favor and 67 were returned opposed.

Mr. Weatherl opened the public hearing. Ms. Blaschke was the first speaker and spoke in favor of the request. Included in her talk was the concern of the low response of those in favor. She suggested the Commission might want to table the request and hold some type of neighborhood meeting to answer questions for those who did not respond to the meeting notice.

Mr. Weatherl asked for a show of hands of those attending and whether they were in favor or opposed. About 7 were in favor and about 12 were opposed with the remainder undecided. (approximately 22 signed the sign-in sheet)

The meeting went on for over an hour with various speakers giving their reasons for their opposition or being in favor. Several remained neutral, but had questions.

Mr. Weatherl asked for a consensus and ideas about how to better inform the property owners. It was the consensus that a neighborhood meeting should be held before the Commission votes on this request and for the City to mail notices of such a meeting.

Ms. Lee made a motion to table the zoning request until a meeting was held. Mr. McClellan seconded it. Vote – Yes: Garren, Wheatley, Weatherl, Perez, McClellan, Lee, Aldridge. No: None. Motion passed to table.

Agenda Item: Discuss Preservation Day attendance.

Ms. Grindstaff informed the members and staff about the February 18, 19, 2004 Preservation Day in Austin, sponsored by Preservation Texas. She reported that a Historic Rehabilitation Award would be given to Hardin Simmons University for the rehabilitation of the Caldwell Fine Arts Building. Staff and Commission members were encouraged to attend the awards ceremony and Preservation Day.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM.