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LANDMARKS COMMISSION

June 24, 2008

Minutes

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Members Present: Robert Calk  
Phil Miller  
Bill Minter  
Steve Butman  
Tina Cargile, Alternate  
Rick Weatherl  
Laura Wardroup

Members Absent:  
Pebbles Lee

Staff Present: Ben Bryner, Planning Services Manager  
Molinda Parker, Senior Planner, Historic Preservation Officer  
James Prescott, Condemnation Officer  
Dan Santee, City Attorney

Guests: Karen Turner  
Mary Peiper Marshall

Mr. Weatherl called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM, declared a quorum present, and read the opening statement.

Minutes of the November 27, 2007 meeting were submitted for approval. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote. Mr. Minter made the motion and Mr. Calk seconded the motion.

Agenda Item 3: CA-2008-01 Public hearing for discussion and/or action on a request by Abilene's Woman's Club for a Certificate of Appropriateness to replace an Abilene brick walkway with concrete and also replace the concrete steps at the rear entrance to the facility located at 3425 S. 14<sup>th</sup> Street.

Mr. Weatherl read the above case description and asked Mr. Bryner to give the staff report.

Mr. Bryner reviewed the staff report and presented aerial photos of the property, photos of the Abilene Woman's Club building, including details of the degraded walkway.

Mr. Butman initiated discussion among commissioners and staff concerning the location of a handicapped ramp and other safety issues.

Mr. Minter inquired if the Abilene brick, after removal from the site, was going to be preserved for use at another location. Mr. Bryner responded that this would be feasible. Staff was asked to investigate available options.

Mr. Weatherl opened the Public Hearing.

Mrs. Turner explained that the request was necessary due to safety issues regarding access to the facility. The unevenness of the brick surface caused by damaged and crumbling bricks poses a threat to pedestrians attempting to enter or leave the building. Therefore a smooth concrete surface, replacing the existing brick walkway, would facilitate safe passage. The commissioners asked a number of questions and concurred that safety is a primary concern.

Further the existing iron handrail would be matched by a second handrail on the opposite side of the steps, and the steps currently on the side of the porch would be removed.

Mr. Minter closed the public hearing.

Mr. Butman made a motion to approve the request. The motion had a second from Mrs. Wardroup. The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 4: CA-2008-02 Public hearing for discussion and/or action on a request by Mary Pieper Marshal for a Certificate of Appropriateness to enlarge the existing back porch and replace the porch roof at her residence located at 1741 S. 5<sup>th</sup> Street.

Mr. Bryner reviewed the staff report and presented the issues regarding this request, which are primarily concerned with utilization of the porch space and safe access to the rear entrance to the home.

Mr. Weatherl initiated discussion among the commissioners and staff members, then opened the Public Hearing.

Mrs. Pieper identified her home as the Scarborough Home within the Historic District. She had done work on the home prior to being informed about the Land mark Commission, but assured the commissioners that all of the previous work was done with care and concern for preserving the integrity of the home's historical significance.

She explained the reasoning behind the request to make alterations to the home's rear porch, which were, as Mr. Bryner had remarked, for efficient and safe use of the space. The chosen contractor proposes to add onto the original porch, thus widening it by a few feet and rebuilding the roof over it. Composite material would be used for durability, rather than wood and the roof would be metal. However, shingles would be acceptable as an alternative, if the commissioners felt it would be more appropriate. The 4"x6" corner posts could be designed to match those on the front of the house by adding a scalloped feature.

Mr. Calk inquired about the floor level of the porch matching the doorway into the kitchen.

Mrs. Pieper assured him that the porch floor would be slightly lower, but not unsightly or dangerous.

Mr. Weatherl asked Mrs. Pieper if she would be comfortable with adding the "arch" element to the post on the porch. She agreed that it would add authenticity to the addition.

Mr. Weatherl closed the Public Hearing.

Mr. Minter made a motion to approve the request.

Mr. Calk seconded the motion with the understanding that the arch feature would be included.

Mr. Weatherl added that the metal roofing material was acceptable.

Mr. Minter commented that the standing seam metal material was okay.

The motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 5: Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Mr. Weatherl at approximately 4:45 PM.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_, Chairman

Date: \_\_\_\_\_