

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION HELD OCTOBER 14, 2008

The Historic Preservation Commission of the City of Eufaula met in regular session Tuesday, October 14, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. in the Municipal Courtroom at the Eufaula Police Department Complex, 545 East Barbour Street. Upon call of the roll the following members were present: Chairman Terry Honan, Vice Chairman Curtis Williams, Doug Purcell, David Ongemach. Absent: Joel Smith, Sr., Bruce Turner. Also present: Bill Klein and Kenny Hayes, City building inspectors; Tim Milner, city planner; Tiffany Woo, The Eufaula Tribune.

Chairman Honan opened the meeting by reading a statement of intent and purpose of the Historic Preservation Commission: "The Eufaula Historic Preservation Commission was established by City of Eufaula Ordinance 2001-2 on March 5, 2001. The purpose of the Commission is to promote the preservation of buildings, structures and sites of historic and architectural value within our city. All of the members of the Commission are unpaid volunteers. We are here today to review applications to see if the design of the proposed projects meet the design review manual requirements established by the city council for projects in the locally designated historic district."

Mr. Purcell moved to approve the minutes of the September 9th, 2008 work session and regular meeting. Mr. Ongemach seconded the motion. Roll call vote was recorded as follows: Yeas: Chairman Honan, Mr. Williams, Mr. Purcell, Mr. Ongemach. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Chairman Honan introduced visitors to the meeting: Hubert Harrison, Ray Buckingham, Chris Sellers, Tommy Lewis, and Stella and Paul Matherne.

The first item on the agenda was a request for Certificate of Appropriateness from Tommy Lewis for fencing at the rear of 201 East Broad Street. Mr. Lewis addressed the Commission and stated since the former Easy Pay Tire Store building has been demolished, his air conditioning units have been left exposed, and he has installed a chain link fence to keep vandals from destroying his property. Mr. Ongemach pointed out chain link fencing is specifically prohibited in the design guidelines, but if it is temporary it is permissible. Mr. Lewis stated he is amenable to removing the chain link portion after the church builds its youth center. Hubert Harrison, representing First Baptist Church, stated Mr. Lewis can tie the existing ornamental fencing into the north wall of the building when it is constructed. After discussion, Mr. Ongemach moved to approve the application as amended to include the chain link fabric will be removed when the new building is completed. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. Roll call vote was recorded as follows: Yeas: Chairman Honan, Mr. Williams, Mr. Purcell, Mr. Ongemach. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The next application was a request for Certificate of Appropriateness for Phase I of construction for First Baptist Church's new youth building to be located at 113 South Randolph Avenue (former Easy Pay Tire Store location). Hubert Harrison, representing First Baptist Church, addressed the Commission and stated the Commission had previously reviewed schematics for the project. An updated Phase 1 document developed by architect Mike Hamrick was submitted along with the application for review. Mr. Harrison stated the construction of Phase 1 will deal with the Western 50% of the earlier proposed building mass and will also deliver the main body of the streetscape presentation of the facility. Mr. Harrison said contracts with the architect and Anderson Construction have already been signed, and groundbreaking is planned for December. Chairman Honan asked what is planned for the space behind the Phase 1 building. Mr. Harrison stated site preparation will be completed in that space and it will be used for parking until the church is ready to build Phase 2. Chairman Honan stated there is no objection to that as long as the Phase 1 building is in place before being used as a parking area. After discussion, Mr. Williams moved to approve the application. Mr. Purcell seconded the motion. Roll call vote was recorded as follows: Yeas: Chairman Honan, Mr. Williams, Mr. Purcell, Mr. Ongemach. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The next item for discussion was a Certificate of Appropriateness submitted by Chris and Karen Sellers, 230 North Eufaula Avenue. Chairman Honan informed Mr. Sellers the application was not received in time to be placed on the agenda, but explained it can be placed on the agenda for the special meeting to be held on Nov. 3. Chairman Honan also reviewed the certificate that was submitted and noted much of the work listed only requires a "work review" form instead of COA. He explained the difference to Mr. Sellers, and noted the only item at this time that will require official approval by the Commission is the paint color selection. Chairman Honan inquired about reconstruction of the porch. Mr. Sellers stated he is not prepared at this time to seek approval for the porch. He noted, however, he will submit a new COA document for paint color approval for the November 3rd special meeting and will submit the proper paperwork 14 calendar days prior to the meeting.

In other business, Chairman Honan stated he had received an e-mail from the building department concerning the deteriorating chimneys at the old Martin Theater building. Building inspector Bill Klein stated the chimneys are leaning five to six feet and if the wall falls, the entire front façade will pull away. He also noted the entire west wall is collapsing. Chairman Honan asked if the city could notify the owners that the chimneys are a hazard and need to be removed and ask for a structural review. Mr. Klein stated he will be writing a letter to the property owner stating he wants them to remove the chimneys and address the façade issues. Chairman Honan stated the Commission will also write to the property owners and encourage them to save the building façade.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, motion was duly made and seconded to adjourn.

THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF EUFAULA, ALABAMA
A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Terry Honan, Chairman

ATTEST:

Teri Bush, Secretary/CLG Liaison