

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF EUFAULA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION HELD DECEMBER 9, 2008

The Historic Preservation Commission of the City of Eufaula met in regular session on Tuesday, December 9, 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, Bruce Turner, Judi Mathisen. Absent: Joel Smith, Sr. Also present: City Planner Tim Milner, Building Inspector Kenny Hayes, Building Inspector Bill Klein; Tiffany Woo, The Eufaula Tribune; Ron Cassady, TV 63.

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 November 12th rescheduled work session and rescheduled regular meeting. Mr. Ongemach seconded the motion. Roll call vote was recorded as follows: Yeas: Chairman Honan, Vice Chairman Williams, Mr. Purcell, Mr. Ongemach, Mr. Turner, Ms. Mathisen. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Chairman Honan introduced visitors to the meeting: Ray Buckingham, Ronnie Smith, Rita Benavides, Jim Mathisen and Steve Rodgers.

The first item on the agenda was a request for Certificate of Appropriateness from Steve Rodgers for paint colors and signage at Shady Oaks Thrift Store, 123 North Eufaula Avenue. Mr. Rodgers presented samples of the colors he wishes to paint the building: Kwal Paint CLW #1016 (Prairie Bluff) and #3115 (Awol). The proposed 4'x8' painted metal sign consists of a white background with black letters and green border. The sign will not be illuminated and will be placed on the building above the entry doors. Mr. Rodgers stated he will be completely removing the awnings and framework, but will possibly replace them with appropriate style awnings at a later date. After discussion, Mr. Purcell moved to approve the application with modifications. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. Roll call vote was recorded as follows: Yeas: Chairman Honan, Vice Chairman Williams, Mr. Purcell, Mr. Ongemach, Mr. Turner, Ms. Mathisen. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The next application was a request by the Eufaula Carnegie Library for Certificate of Appropriateness for painting, which has already been completed. Ronnie Smith, library director, was present to address the Commission. Chairman Honan stated he has spoken with several people trying to find a solution to the paint problem. He referred to a letter from architect Mike Hamrick, which states the style of the building calls for a more muted, earth-tone color instead of the brighter yellow shade that has been recently painted on the exterior. Mr. Hamrick's letter also notes the brighter yellow also overshadows the buff coloring of the brick and masonry. Chairman Honan stated he has

also spoken with the Alabama Historic Commission, which said paint was donated for a project in Mobile and the property owner only had to pay for labor and other associated costs. Chairman Honan pointed out neither the City of Eufaula or the Carnegie Library have the funds to repaint, and the staff review recommends denial of the application based on inconsistent paint color with the original color or time period of the building. Mr. Smith stated the library board paid the contractor \$15,200 to paint the library, and does not have the financial resources at this time to repaint. Mr. Purcell asked Mr. Smith if he was aware of any other grant opportunities that could be used to repaint the building. Mr. Smith stated he was not aware of any. Mr. Ongemach noted the painting was funded through a \$25,000 grant, and asked if the remaining balance of \$9,800 had been spent. Mr. Smith stated it has not been spent. Mr. Purcell asked if the funds could be expended for labor if the paint could be obtained through donation. Mr. Smith stated that would have to be approved by the library's board of directors. Mr. Ongemach asked if the contractor would provide a breakdown of his prep work, labor and paint costs, and also provide a quote of labor costs only to repaint the building (paint to be furnished). Mr. Smith emphasized any action would have to be approved by the library's board of directors. After discussion, Mr. Ongemach moved to consider the application incomplete and place the matter on next month's agenda for further consideration. Mrs. Mathisen seconded the motion. Roll call vote was recorded as follows: Yeas: Chairman Honan, Vice Chairman Williams, Mr. Purcell, Mr. Ongemach, Mr. Turner, Ms. Mathisen. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The last application on the agenda was a request by Hernan and Rita Benavides for Certificate of Appropriateness for exterior façade and storefront for 132 East Broad Street. Bobby Wright addressed the Commission on behalf of the applicants. The proposal includes replacing the two large windows with four smaller windows, creating a recessed entrance, replacing the awning, and repainting the façade. The applicants plan to expand their eye clinic in the adjacent building into this building. Wood framed windows replace the metal-framed windows. The recessed entry will feature narrow windows on both sides of the glass-centered wood door. Decorative trim that extends one foot from the façade will replace the awning. Mr. Wright stated the Eufaula Athenaeum is a model for the project. The front façade will be repainted the existing color. Signage will consist of letters on the windows and a small sign on the door. After discussion, Mr. Purcell moved to approve the application as submitted. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. Roll call vote was recorded as follows: Yeas: Chairman Honan, Vice Chairman Williams, Mr. Purcell, Mr. Ongemach, Mr. Turner, Ms. Mathisen. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Under old business, Chairman Honan asked Building Official Bill Klein if he has had any further correspondence from the owners of the former Martin Theater property. Mr. Klein stated he has not.

Chairman Honan stated he spoke with attorney Sonny Harrison regarding the Bluff City Inn property. Mr. Harrison advised he will pursue a written response to the Commission's inquiry concerning the status of the property from the owner, William Hitson.

Mr. Ongemach asked if Chris Sellers has submitted any further paperwork for his property on North Eufaula Avenue, noting it was his understanding he was to return to the Commission with information in December. Chairman Honan stated he will follow up with Mr. Sellers.

Ray Buckingham addressed the Commission and stated the Commission needs to make sure property owners in the district are aware of the guidelines. Chairman Honan stated letters have been sent to property owners in the past and information is readily available on the City's website.

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