



The following minutes are from the Historic Meeting held on Tuesday February 11, 2020 in the Abita Springs Town Hall at 6:00PM.

Chairman Blitch called the meeting to order and all stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners in attendance included Ron Blitch, Otto Dinkelacker, Thad Mancil, and Andre Monnot. Commissioner Andrew Vaughn was not present. Kristin Tortorich and Mayor Daniel Curtis were also present.

Commissioner Monnot motioned to accept the minutes from the January 14, 2019 meeting and to dispense with the reading. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dinkelacker. All Commissioners were in favor.

Greater Mt. Hermon Baptist Church

The Greater Mt. Hermon Baptist Church requested approval to add a prefab portable storage shed to their property located at 71538 St. James Street. The design, photos and specifications were reviewed by the Historic Commissioners. Commissioner Mancil motioned to approve the request. Commissioner Dinkelacker seconded that motion. All commissioners were in favor. The certificate of Appropriateness was issued.

Discussion: Historic Guideline Discussion

Preliminary Discussion involved four topics:

1. 7-Foot Porch Depth
Discussion took place about changing porch depth requirements from 7' minimum to an 8' minimum. Commissioner Mancil would like to put emphasis on the fact that this is just a minimum and porch depth and width needs further discussion. Commissioner Blitch stated that some porches that are deeper could possibly be approved at less than 1/3 width of the front of the house. Stewart Eastman suggested taking the following into account; percentage of square foot, depth and return of the porch when approving. Discussion was also had regarding preliminary approval for porches that do not meet the 2/3 guidelines.
2. Plastic Fencing
Discussion took place regarding discontinuing the allowance of plastic fencing in the Historic District. Lee Barrios stated that plastic fences are the better option when compared to broken or poorly maintained wooden fences. Commissioner Mancil agreed and added that Mrs. Barrios made valid points.
3. Vinyl Siding
Commissioner Blitch discussed revising the requirements for vinyl siding and which types are allowed.
4. Drafting Companies
Discussion took place regarding the drafting comprehensive guide to understanding our guidelines; windows, columns proportions, railings, etc.

More discussion will take place regarding all these ideas at future meetings

Lee Barrios questioned HOA oversight as far as fences in the Abita Oaks Subdivision.

Commissioner Blitch discussed his upcoming meeting with Notre Dame. One of the main goals is to maintain the Town Center and keep the town walkable.

Commissioner Blitch passed a motion to adjourn the meeting and Otto Dinkelacker seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Janet N. Dufrene, Town Clerk

Date