

The following minutes are from the Historic Commission meeting on Tuesday, August 13, 2024, in the Abita Springs Town Hall. The meeting convened at 6:01 P.M.

Commission Vice Chairman Monnot called the meeting to order. Commissioner Vogt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners Paul Vogt, Andre Monnot, Ron Blich and Alissa Whitney were present. Otto Dinkelacker was absent. Kristin Tortorich and Heather Hockman were also present.

AGENDA MODIFICATION

There were no modifications to the agenda.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

The Commissioners were provided with the minutes from the July 9, 2024, meeting.

Commissioner Blich motioned to approve the minutes of the July, 9, 2024, meeting as submitted. Commissioner Whitney seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

CONSIDER CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS 22189 Level Street

The application is for siding replacement and paint approval. The applicant stated the existing cypress siding would be replaced in-kind. The paint colors selected would be Resolute Blue for siding, a darker blue called Salty Dog for shutters, white for trim around windows and on the porch railing, a lighter blue called Sonic Sky would be applied to the porch ceiling, and the porch floor would be a shade called Storm Cloud.

Commissioner Blich motioned to approve as submitted. Commissioner Whitney seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Commissioner Whitney is assigned.

CONSIDER CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS 22213 Level Street

The application is for enclosing part of a carport for storage and adding a fence. The applicant explained she does not have any existing exterior storage on her property, and in lieu of having a shed, she'd like to enclose a portion of the carport to have some storage space. She explained the carport is attached to the ancillary structure and would have Hardie plank siding to match the house. Commissioner Blich confirmed with the applicant that the bay of the carport closest to the structure is the area to be enclosed for storage. The applicant stated there would be two doors, one facing the house and the other facing the carport which is on the Laurel Street side. The applicant said the paint would be color matched to the house.

Commissioner Blich asked about the fence's size and location. The applicant stated it would be a 4' high wood picket fence with 2" spacing that would run along the driveway and side of the carport, and another small section would of the same type of fence would run between the ancillary structure and the east property line to enclose the backyard for dogs. The applicant also stated she plans to remove the gate at the end of the driveway.

Commissioner Blich motioned to approve the application as submitted. Commissioner Whitney seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Commissioner Blich is assigned.

CONSIDER CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS EcoView Windows & Doors, 21434 Hwy 36

The application is for new signs for the business. The applicant wasn't present, so Kristin Tortorich presented the application. Ms. Tortorich explained that there are two signs, one on the front of the building and the other out by the street. The owner said that he may have to make some revisions because of the size of one of the signs being too large. Commissioner Blitch said he believed the sign size to be limited to 32 square feet, so a 6' by 6' sign would be too big, but a 4' by 8' sign would be within the limit. Commissioner Blitch said that the Commission would need to have the size confirmed and he would like to see the posts dressed up to look more like a permanent sign and less like a construction sign. Commissioner Blitch also stated an internally illuminated signs and plastic faces are not allowed. Commissioner Blitch noted that another business has put in an illegal sign and promised to not lighting on, yet that has happened. His recommendation was to remove the baluster if the sign is in fact is that type of illuminated sign to make sure it couldn't be turned on at a later date.

The Commission did not take action, due to the applicant not being in attendance to discuss the issues in the application. The item can be brought to the Commission again, when the applicant or a representative can be in attendance.

DISCUSSION**OPEN COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Blitch asked for clarification regarding the online form discussed last month regarding non-conforming temporary structures. He asked if it would be for the commissioners and residents to complete with the address and description of the violation. Kristin Tortorich confirmed it is open for anyone to use and explained that the form is used as a tracking system for reporting non-conforming items. The forms get sent to her as well as the Marshal so the system can track the reported date and there can be a record of how long it has been if no action is taken.

Commissioner Blitch asked if the reported date is used or the start of the violation. Ms. Tortorich confirmed that the report date is what would be recorded, since we don't always have a beginning date for the violation. Commissioner Vogt then asked if there was a law of prescription that would apply for any violations that have been there for a very long time and not addressed. Kristin Tortorich said she'd have to check with legal.

Commissioner Blitch noted that Kevin Tauzier, owner of the church on Main Street across from the U.S. Post Office, was in the audience and the renovations are coming along nicely with the new windows installed. Commissioner Blitch said Mr. Tauzier was able to purchase a reusable fiberglass steeple from a church in Alexandria that will be able to be added to the structure. Commissioner Monnot asked about the replacement of the windows. Mr. Tauzier explained rot was found in the frames along with bringing the windows up to Code compliance necessitated their replacement and added that he worked with Commissioner Blitch to find windows that were aesthetically pleasing.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Vogt motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Whitney seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 P.M.

 Kristin Tortorich, Planning & Zoning Director

 Date