

The following minutes are from the Historic Commission meeting on Tuesday, April 11, 2023, in the Abita Springs Town Hall. The meeting convened at 6:03 P.M.

Commission Chairman Mancil called the meeting to order. Commissioner Blitch led the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners in attendance included Thad Mancil, Ron Blitch, Otto Dinkelacker, Paul Vogt. Andre Monnot arrived after the Acceptance of Minutes. Kristin Tortorich and Heather Hockman were also present.

### **Call For Agenda Modification**

Kristin Tortorich explained that an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness was received on March 31<sup>st</sup> prior to the deadline, however the email went to the spam folder, so the application wasn't seen in time to be added to the agenda. Ms. Tortorich requested the agenda to be modified to include the application since it was received on time.

**Commissioner Blitch motioned to modify the agenda to include the application. Commissioner Dinkelacker seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.**

### **Acceptance of Minutes**

The Commission reviewed the draft minutes from the March 14, 2023, meeting. **Commissioner Blitch motioned to accept the minutes of the March 14, 2023, meeting as submitted. Commissioner Dinkelacker seconded the motion. All commissioners voted in favor.**

### **Public Hearing**

#### **Proposed Amendment to Historic Guidelines regarding lattice for fencing**

Commission Chairman Mancil read the draft of the amendment and asked for any comments from the Commissioners.

Kristin Tortorich noted there was a missing verb in the proposed amendment. Everyone agreed that the words "is allowed" should be added to the end of the sentence beginning with "Alternatively,".

There were no public comments.

**Commissioner Dinkelacker motioned to close the Public Hearing. Commissioner Monnot seconded the motion. All voted in favor.**

Commission Chairman Mancil asked for any additional comments from the Commission before moving on to a vote on the amendment. Commissioner Vogt asked if a resident has an existing 8' fence and wants to change the top two feet to one of the new options, would it be allowable. Commissioners Blitch and Mancil stated the owner would need to present a new application to make the change.

Commissioner Blitch said he was concerned about the language around the 8' fence. Discussion ensued about the language regarding the height of the fencing for clarity. It was determined that the edit should read: "Alternatively, an 8' fence comprised of a 6' fence with a 2' top fence, created with: lattice, pickets, or horizontal boards on a vertical or horizontal privacy fence, is allowed." Ms. Tortorich said she would make the change.

**Commissioner Blitch motioned to reopen the Public Hearing. Commissioner Dinkelacker seconded. All voted in favor.**

Jessica Schilling stated she thought the language was confusing, but ultimately agreed with whatever language the Commission decided to approve.

**Commissioner Blitch motioned to close the Public Hearing. Commissioner Dinkelacker seconded the motion. All voted in favor.**

**Commissioner Dinkelacker motioned to approve the amendment based on the edits discussed. Commissioner Monnot seconded the motion. All voted in favor.**

**Certificate of Appropriateness 71472 Keller Street**

The application is to repaint the house with the existing color.

Commission Chairman Mancil showed the sample of the paint which is called eggplant or blackberry.

Commissioner Dinkelacker asked if the trim color would remain white. The applicant stated that only the body of the house is being repainted, and that the trim would remain white, green, orange, and gray. She went on to explain that the house was previously re-painted with latex paint over oil-based paint, so bubbles were created that need to be repaired, and the house has faded on one side which could use a fresh coat of paint.

**Commissioner Monnot motioned to approve the application as submitted. Commissioner Dinkelacker seconded the motion. All voted in favor.**

**Certificate of Appropriateness 22324 Level Street**

The application is to add a new garden shed and 6' fences.

Commission Chairman Mancil asked for clarification on where the fencing would be going. The new metal fence would be between the carport and the wood fence. The cedar fence would be installed along the rear of the property.

The applicant confirmed the material to be used on the garden shed would be Hardie board and batten, and the roof would be asphalt shingles to match the house.

**Commissioner Blitch motioned to approve the application as submitted. Commission Vice Chairman Dinkelacker seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The application is assigned to Commissioner Mancil.**

**Certificate of Appropriateness 22139 Level Street**

Commission Chairman Mancil recused himself from the voting, so he could present the application. The application is for a new metal sign for Trinity Lutheran Church. Commissioner Mancil explained the new sign would go in the same place over the corner entrance in the same location and the same size as the old sign. He also said the new sign will be slightly thinner due to the new material being painted metal, and the old material being painted, layered plywood. Commissioner Blitch confirmed the 4' X 7' size is within the guidelines.

**Commissioner Monnot motioned to approve the application. Commissioner Dinkelacker seconded the motion. All, except the recused Commissioner Mancil, voted in favor.**

**DISCUSSION**

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Kristin Tortorich announced the first annual Autism Awareness Day would be held Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup> from 10-2 across from the Town Hall.

Commissioner Blitch explained he has had many people asking why the trees were removed next to Town Hall, and he explained the Crape Myrtles were removed to make way for the new sidewalk to be installed.

**Commissioner Vice Chairman Dinkelacker motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Blitch seconded the motion. All commissioners were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:25 P.M.**

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Kristin M. Tortorich, Planning and Zoning

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Date