

The following minutes are from the Historic Commission meeting on Tuesday, February 15, 2024, in the Abita Springs Town Hall. The meeting convened at 6:00 P.M.

Commission Vice Chairman Otto Dinkelacker called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Paul Vogt.

Commissioners Andre Monnot, Paul Vogt, and Otto Dinkelacker were present. Commissioners Ron Blitch and Thad Mancil were absent. Kristin Tortorich and Heather Hockman were also present.

Agenda Modification

Kristin Tortorich asked for the discussion of Historic Guideline changes to be postponed until next month when all Commissioners could be present.

Commissioner Monnot motioned to modify the agenda to postpone the discussion of the Historic Guidelines. Commissioner Vogt seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Acceptance of Minutes

The Commissioners were provided with the minutes from the December 12, 2023, meeting.

Commissioner Vogt motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. Commissioner Monnot seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Consider Certificate of Appropriateness 22331 9th Street

The application is for a new 12' X 16' garden shed in the backyard. The applicant stated the shed is a kit that has the option of switching the window and door. She stated the door will be on the right side and the window will be on the left. Commissioner Dinkelacker confirmed the exterior materials will match the house. The applicant presented paint colors. Commissioner Dinkelacker said it would be gray with white trim. Commissioner Monnot asked about the foundation. The applicant stated the shed will be on skids in the back left corner of the property five feet off the property lines.

Commissioner Monnot motioned to approve the application with the paint colors submitted by the applicant. Commissioner Vogt seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The application was assigned to commissioner Monnot.

Consider Certificate of Appropriateness Lot 5-A Sanders Street

The application is for a new home. Commissioner Monnot began the review of the checklist. The applicant stated the foundation would be pilings with lattice. Discussion ensued over a precedent for the use of pilings in the Historic District. The applicant stated her previous application for a new home on St. Charles Street included pilings and it was approved. Staff pulled up the previous application and reviewed the minutes from that meeting. The previous application had lattice skirting approved with a wooden frame. The commissioners decided to move on with the checklist and revisit the foundation issue at the end.

The crawl space will have 24 inches clearance. The application was for vertical vinyl siding. Commissioner Dinkelacker stated true board and batten is an allowable siding choice or vinyl siding is allowable but not vertical vinyl. The applicant confirmed the house shall have fiberglass shingles, wood material on the

front porch, the porch is at least 2/3 of the front of the house, no chimney, steps made of wood with vinyl railings, building height under 35 feet, and vinyl trim for both the siding and the windows. The Commission said the house should have nominal four-inch trim. The house will also include columns to be either painted aluminum or white vinyl, doors to be made of wood or metal, and shutters to be made of vinyl. Commissioner Monnot remarked the shutters appeared to be narrow and advised the applicant to make sure they were half the width of the window. There will not be any accessory buildings or a fence at this time. The house will not have any exterior fluorescent, LED, or strip lighting.

Commissioner Monnot said his opinion was to have masonry or the appearance of masonry for the foundation. The applicant asked if wrapped pilings were an option. Commissioner Dinkelacker said that would be fine, they just did not want to approve exposed pilings.

Commissioner Monnot motioned to preliminarily approve the house application except for the foundation, stipulating the applicant to provide masonry foundation or simulated masonry foundation for approval by the Commission.

Kristin Tortorich asked for confirmation on the next step for the applicant, as the applicant did not want to wait another month to come to a meeting for approval of the foundation, and the building permit process would be on hold until the foundation issue was resolved. It was confirmed that an e-mail submission would be accepted unless the commissioner assigned did not approve the submission. If the assigned commissioner felt the foundation plan needed further review, the applicant would have to come back to the next meeting.

The standing motion was then seconded by Commissioner Vogt. All voted in favor. Commissioner Dinkelacker is assigned to the application.

Consider Certificate of Appropriateness Lot 5-B Sanders Street

The application is for a new home. Commissioner Vogt began the review of the checklist. The foundation is pending changes to be submitted by applicant like lot 5A. The house is to include vinyl horizontal siding, fiberglass shingles, 8/12 slope roof, wood porch with 7 foot depth and 2/3 width of the house, no chimney, steps made of wood, house height to be under 35 feet, vinyl window trim (4 inch nominal trim width), vinyl trim, aluminum or vinyl columns, doors made of wood or metal, and vinyl shutters. There will not be any accessory buildings or a fence at this time. The house will not have any exterior fluorescent, LED, or strip lighting.

Commissioner Monnot motioned to approve the application contingent upon satisfactory submission and approval of a foundation plan. Commissioner Vogt seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Commissioner Dinkelacker is assigned to this application.

Consider Certificate of Appropriateness Longbranch Recovery, 21513 Hwy 36

The application is for a sign for the Long Branch Recovery & Wellness Center to be placed diagonally near the intersection of Gordon Avenue and Highway. 36. Commissioner Dinkelacker asked about lighting. Kristin Tortorich responded there will be spotlighting on the sign. The sign will be 60 inches wide by 48 inches high. The total sandblasted sign height is approximately 67 inches.

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

Administrative Review

22176 12th Street

This application was for an in-kind roof replacement with same color shingles. Commissioner Dinkelacker asked if it would be possible, in the future, to have a photo of the finished project to verify the actual replacement to verify what is installed is what was approved. Kristin Tortorich stated she can request the Building Inspector or the homeowner take a picture after replacement completion.

Adjournment

Commissioner Dinkelacker motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Monnot seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 P.M.

Kristin Tortorich, Planning & Zoning Director

Date