

**ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

January 23, 2018

The Athens-Clarke County Historic Preservation Commission met and considered the following items at a public meeting on Wednesday, January 23, 2018, at 5:30 p.m. This meeting was originally scheduled for January 17th; however, it was rescheduled due to inclement weather. The meeting was held at 120 W. Dougherty Street, Athens, Georgia.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Barry Allen, Jeff Bishop, Mary Cook, Drew Dekle, Megan Morgan, Janet Parker, Jared Peden

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Sandy Beasley, Amber Eskew, Bruce Lonnee, Lauren Patterson, Michael Petty

CALL TO ORDER:

1. Determination of Quorum: Quorum present.
2. Introduction of Staff reports and all other documents submitted to the Historic Preservation Commission at this meeting into the official record: Mr. Peden moved to enter staff reports and all other documents submitted into the official record. Mr. Allen seconded and the motion passed unanimously with no discussion.
3. Adoption of the minutes of the December 20, 2017 meeting: Mr. Allen made a motion to adopt the minutes as written. Mr. Bishop seconded and the motion passed unanimously with no discussion.
4. Ex-Parte Communications: none

CONSENT AGENDA: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 387 S. Milledge Avenue

COA-2017-12-3293

Petitioner: Josh Koons/Koons Environmental Design, Inc. for Thomas and Ann Wilkins

Request: Asphalt Parking Lot

Information: 171C1 D008, Milledge, C-O (MAC)

Ms. Eskew presented the staff report with a recommendation to deny the application.

Agent / Owner: Josh Koons

In Favor: Joseph Smith

In Opposition: none

Discussion: Mr. Koons challenged the validity and subjectivity of Chapter 3A of the Milledge Avenue Design Guidelines as it relates to asphalt - appropriateness, historic nature of material, and the environmental suitability of material selections. He based his questioning on the prevalence of asphalt in this district and in adjoining districts. He believes that asphalt is aesthetically pleasing, appropriate, and historically significant. Mr. Smith added that accommodations could be made to use asphalt only for the drive lanes, with concrete for the aprons.

Mr. Bishop believes that this guideline is negative and leaves a lot to conjecture. It should be reworded with input from public comments. Ms. Cook agreed that the guidelines are not clear. The Commission noted several properties on Milledge with asphalt parking. Mr. Dekle does not believe an asphalt parking lot detracts from the property or history. Ms. Morgan thinks that traditional materials, especially in Landmark properties, should be respected.

Motion: Mr. Allen moved to deny the application. Mr. Peden seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

CONCEPTUAL PRELIMINARY DESIGN REVIEW:

1. 450 North Harris Street

COA-2018-01-27

Petitioner: Jeff Squier / JOMA Construction for Daniel Nelson

Request: Rear Addition and Accessory Structure

Information: 171A1 K006, Cobbham, RM-1

Ms. Eskew presented the staff report. Being that this application is for conceptual review, the HPC will provide comments only.

Agent / Owner: Jeff Squier, JOMA; John Newland, JOMA

In Favor: none

In Opposition: none

Discussion: This request is for demolition of a concrete rear porch and detached garage. Both will be rebuilt with a slight increase in size.

Mr. Bishop stressed to the applicants that the HPC requires solid documentation of the condition of both structures before demolition will be approved. The applicant plans to use a different material on the rear wall of the porch area. The Commission had some concerns about the type of new material. The chimney will be retained as is. The garage replacement, according to the applicant, will not be used as a garage. Mr. Bishop suggested that the replacement harken to what it was before a garage, paying respect to it. Mr. Lonnee added that it should still read as a garage.

2. 101 College Avenue

COA-2018-01-40

Petitioner: Scott Burnett for Victor & Pi-Ying Cheng
Request: Storefront modifications
Information: 171B5 B007, Downtown, C-D (DHD)

Ms. Eskew presented the staff report. Being that this application is for conceptual review, the HPC will provide comments only.

Agent / Owner: Kent Thagard

In Favor: none

In Opposition: none

Discussion: Mr. Thagard distributed historical photographs of the building. He anticipates taking the building back to its original scale. They will also determine if brick is still behind the plaster. They will replace the plaster with brick if the original brick is no longer in place. The Commission appreciated the level of care taken in returning the building back to original.

The storefront is anticipated to be Jeldwen metal panels. Commission discussion indicated that wood is a more appropriate material for the façade.

3. 420 Reese Street

COA-2018-01-51

Petitioner: Amy Kissane / ACHF for James Alford / Hill First Baptist Church
Request: Relocation of House
Information: 171A3 A013, Reese, RM-1

Ms. Eskew presented the staff report. Being that this application is for conceptual review, the HPC will provide comments only.

Agent / Owner: Amy Kissane

In Favor: none

In Opposition: none

Discussion: Ms. Kissane provided the historic background of this house. She advised that herculean efforts to relocate this structure has failed. The house will not fit under the overhead wiring that cannot be moved. Therefore, this is no longer a relevant application. They will continue efforts to get the house moved.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Designation Committee Report: no meeting held. Ms. Eskew noted that landmark designation of the Lehmann-Bancroft House went before the Mayor and Commission at their January agenda setting meeting and received positive feedback.

2. Education Committee Report: The Committee met. The annual report is ready for distribution.

3. Miscellaneous Announcements:

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.