

DRAFT Minutes

Augusta Historic Preservation Commission

January 7, 2015

6:30 pm at City Center, Conference Room D

Members Present: Phyllis von Herrlich, Lorie Mastemaker, Dale McCormick, Alison Sucusy

Members Absent: Sylvia Hudson, Jerry Bumford, Andy Loman

Others Present: Susan Redmond

Announcements. Phyllis von Herrlich announced that the City Council voted to support the creation of a national register of historic places district for the downtown. \$6,000 was allocated from one of the Historic Preservation Commission accounts. This is less than ½ the cost.

Minutes. Motion by Alison Sucusy to approve the December 3, 2014 minutes as drafted. Seconded by Phyllis von Herrlich. All in favor. 4:0. Motion passed.

Financial reports. The Commission reviewed the financial reports dated December 22, 2014.

Book. Motion by Phyllis von Herrlich to purchase five copies of *The Economics of Historic Preservation: A Community Leader's Guide* by Donovan D. Rypkema (published by the National Trust for Historic Preservation) for the use of the City Council. Seconded by Alison Sucusy. All in favor. 4:0. Motion passed.

32 Court Street demolition application. Lorie Mastemaker said that the Planning Board asked why the Commission thought that the building met the criteria of a significant building. In response, Lorie drafted a letter to the Planning Board Chair which described the reasons. Lorie suggested that the Commission change its process so that it document its findings better.

To that end, Commission members would like to develop a worksheet to use. Susan Redmond suggested that the sample motion language be modified to include findings. Susan will work on developing a worksheet and sample motion language.

25 Bond Street historic building plaque application. Commission members discussed possible names for the house. Commission members shall come to the February meeting with name ideas.

2015 long term planning.

Preservation month (May):

- Place on February, March, April agendas
- Architectural detail tour

Demolition delay ordinance:

- Goal for recommending changes: June
- Susan to ask Matt Nazar: Which ordinances were reviewed when Augusta ordinance was created; how are other municipalities regulating building demolitions which are subject to delay after the delay period (which are not reviewed by Planning Board)
- Lorie will get examples of other demolition and delay ordinances
- Susan will assign reading to Commission members including: 1) ordinances which were reviewed when Augusta's ordinance was drafted and 2) examples of other demolition and delay ordinances. She will spread the reading assignments out among the Commission members. Only one Commission member will be responsible for reading an ordinance. Reading assignments will be for the February meeting.

Museum in the Streets

- Phyllis will try to arrange a meeting in January with Leif Dahlin regarding the maintenance of the signs and posts. Lorie and Susan will attend it. They will report back at the February meeting.

The meeting ended at 8:17 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Susan Redmond.