

Shreveport Historic Preservation Commission

MINUTES January 21, 2020

Room 440, Metropolitan Planning Commission Conference Room
Government Plaza
505 Travis Street
Shreveport, Louisiana

Commissioners

Commissioner Gary Joiner, Chair
Commissioner Billy Wayne, Vice Chair
Commissioner Frances Conley
Commissioner Lane Callaway, Secretary
Associate Commissioner Amy Wren

Visitors

None

Attorney's Office – City of Shreveport

Ms. Courtney Harris

Shreveport-Caddo Metropolitan Planning Commission

Mr. James Djamba, Planner, Community Planning Department
Ms. Maryan Moradian, Planner, Land Development Department

1. Meeting was called to order at 4:00pm by the Chair with a quorum present.
2. Opening Remarks: Chair referred to memorandum titled, *Identifying Procedures for Review of Applications* to all present.
3. Chair requested Ms. Courtney Harris, Attorney's Office of the City of Shreveport to administer the oath of office as Associate Commissioner to Dr. Amy Wren, who was confirmed by City Council unanimous vote on Tuesday, January 14, 2020. Oath of office administered.
4. Approval of Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) Minutes for December 17, 2019: Chair asked for questions or discussion on the Minutes; being none, Chair asked for a motion to approve these Minutes. Motion to approve made by Commissioner Wayne and seconded by Commissioner Conley; unanimous vote to approve.
5. Old Business: Certificate of Demolition – COD 19-329-HPC: 1504 Peabody Street, multiple Shotgun-style dwellings (single and double styles) all Contributing Elements to St. Paul's Bottoms Historic District – Deferred on October 15, 2019; tabled pending evaluation by City Attorney's office. Update given by Courtney Harris, City Attorney's Office during January 21 meeting. City Attorney's office to ensure no issue in advising both HPC and Property Standards office that submitted COD request.

6. HPC-Public Collaboration:

6a. Louisiana Historical Marker unveiled at Bethune / Oak Park School: Event was conducted on December 21, 2019 during annual reunion of alumni. Estimated 250 persons with officials from Caddo Parish Schools attended. Representing HPC was Commissioners Conley, Wayne, and Callaway who each was asked to participate in the unveiling. Previously HPC collaborated with the Bethune Jr-Sr High School Alumni Association in working on and submitting the successful nomination for listing the school on the National Register of Historic Places. As well the HPC advised the alumni association on the application to the State of Louisiana for the historical marker.

6b. Commissioner Callaway reminded all Commissioners of invitation to attend the 70th Anniversary of opening of Booker T. Washington High School on 23 January 2020. The HPC had collaborated on nominating the historic school to the National Register of Historic Places as well as advising on the application for a State Historical Marker. Event was being held at the school from 9:00 to 10:30am.

7. Historic Preservation Advising:

7a. Commissioner Callaway updated HPC about contacting the owner of 1544 Milam Street (Allendale Neighborhood) on nominating this 1958-built commercial building to the National Register of Historic Places. This building is also part of the Civil Rights Heritage Trail. Commissioner Callaway is providing additional information to the owner on the nomination process and history of the building. Commissioner Joiner requested all to review and comment on the recent distributed listing of sites composing the Civil Rights Heritage Trail.

7b. Commissioner Callaway updated HPC about request for assistance from a committee appointed by St Rest Baptist Church (Allendale Neighborhood) to obtain a Louisiana Historical Marker. Contacting the HPC for advice and assistance was urged by Councilman Willie Bradford (District A). Commissioner Callaway and the church committee's point of contact have exchanged contact information and started the process to complete an application for a marker. Commissioner Joiner added that St Rest Baptist Church is part of the Civil Rights Heritage Trail with the church building was damaged by a bombing during the Civil Rights-era in Shreveport. As well Commissioner Joiner encourage to gather the historic information for a possible future nomination of St Rest Baptist Church building to the National Register of Historic Places.

8. Historic Preservation Commission Business Item – HPC Webpage:

Commissioner Callaway distributed a one-page listing of current historic preservation elements listed on the current MPC webpage under the heading of "Historic Preservation." There are currently two sub-sections on the MPC webpage: "Historic Preservation" and "Historic Preservation Commission."

Discussion begin to distinguished which elements need to remain on the MPC webpage vice elements that HPC need to possess and populate with information on a unique HPC webpage. Several elements currently on the MPC webpage under "Historic Preservation" to be considered for move to HPC Webpage: History of Shreveport; Historic Districts & Landmarks; Historic District Maps.

For unique HPC webpage, additional elements are being considered to include: Civil Rights Heritage Trail; Historic Plaques & Louisiana Historical Marker FAQ; Vintage Photographs of Historic Shreveport.

Webpage discussion is to continue during the February 18, 2020 meeting of HPC. Commissioner Callaway is to have a modified webpage listing of elements.

9. Public Comments: None

10. Adjournment: Having no addition business to conduct, the Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Wayne made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Conley; with resulting unanimous vote. Chair adjourned the Meeting at 4:50pm.