

Shreveport Historic Preservation Commission

MINUTES August 18, 2020

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

Commissioners (virtual)

Commissioner Gary Joiner, Chair
Commissioner Lane Callaway, Secretary
Commissioner Cheryl White

Visitor

Ms. Helen Quimby (COD 20-4-HPC)

Ex-Officio

Mr. Adam Bailey, Shreveport-Caddo Metropolitan Planning Commission

Legal Advisor

Gernine Mailhes, Office of City Attorney City of Shreveport

Shreveport-Caddo Metropolitan Planning Commission

Mr. James Djamba, Planner, Community Development Department
Ms. Maryam Moradian, Community Development Department

1. Meeting called to order by Chair at 4:01pm with a quorum present.
2. Opening Remarks: The Chair read memorandum titled, *Identifying Procedures for Review of Application* to all present. The Chair noted of wanting to make remarks on a topic upon a completion of all agenda items. Commissioner Callaway noted to the Chair and those present of the Agenda for August 18 contained two misspellings; all three requests listed on the agenda were requests for a Certificate of Appropriateness.
3. Approval of HPC Minutes for July 21, 2020: The Chair asked for questions or discussion on the Minutes for July. Having none, the Chair asked for a motion to approve. Motion to approve was made by Commissioner White and seconded by Commissioner Joiner; unanimously passed.
4. New Business:
Certificate of Appropriateness – COA 20-4-HPC (alteration): 1030 Dalzell Street, Fairfield Historic District, Contributing Element, one-story frame bungalow built circa 1900-1909. (*HPC note: 20-4-HPC was originally assigned by MPC in February 2020 but not used with this number recycled.*)

MPC Staff Case Report: Ms. Moradian presented the application submitted by the property owner, Ms Helen Quimby. The application contained one map, one aerial photo map, nine photographs, and one document. Central issue was a rather newly installed 432 square foot prefabricated storage building on the property but installed without a building permit. The standard is a permit required for all prefabricated storage buildings of more than 120 square feet. MPC finds the storage building is not in harmony with the special historic character of the

history district / Historic Preservation Overlay District. Ms. Moradian noted the storage building was on the cleared corner lot of two streets within the historic district, therefore if moved to the rear of the residential house, it can still be seen. MPC had no conditions for its recommendation.

Public Comments: Ms. Quimby did not realized the prefabrication storage building needed a permit. The building is on a concrete slab and full of items so cannot be easily moved. However, she was flexible on the HPC recommendation for the way ahead.

HPC Discussion and Vote on Recommendation: The Chair asked all and the Ex-Officio for possible solutions. Mr. Bailey noted more than likely there was not enough available space to the rear of the residence but would still within the street view. Being on a concrete slab, moving would probably need a Certificate of Demolition. Another possible solution is to hide the storage building with a fence. Or to clad the exterior of the storage building to match the style and color of the residency with the roofing of the storage reflecting material and color of the residency's roof.

Having no additional discussion by the HPC, the Chair thanked Ms. Quimby and all for a frank discussion. He asked for a motion. A motion made by Commissioner White that be building be clad in the proper material to reflect the residence but keep its current metal roof. Commissioner Joiner seconded the motion; unanimously passed.

Certificate of Appropriateness – COD 20-14-HPC (new construction): 501 Texas Street, Parish Court House Square, Historic Object listed individually in 2014 on the National Register of Historic Places within the Shreveport Commercial Historic District.

MPC Staff Case Report: Mr. Adam Bailey presented the application submitted by the Caddo Parish Commission with the request containing one map, three diagrams, and three photographs. The applicant is requesting construction of a temporary 21 foot by 21 foot fence to surround the Caddo Parish Confederate Monument (20 feet, 8 inches wide; 20 feet, 8 inches deep; and 30 foot height). The fencing is a means to screen and protect the monument as the first phase of a legal settlement to allow proper removal of the monument. Admittedly this is an after-the-fact request since the fence has already been physically constructed enclosing the monument. MPC staff recommendation contained two conditions: approval from Shreveport-Caddo Zoning Boards of Appeals allowing a variance of 12 foot fence height (six foot is maximum allowed) the and the period for the temporary fence is not to exceed 180 days from date of approval by Executive Director, MPC. Should this timeframe expire, a new COA would be required.

Public Comments: There was no public comment on this request.

HPC Discussion and Vote on Recommendation: The Chair asked for comments. Commissioner Callaway clarified that the Monument itself is considered a “historic object” and individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places. As well, a correction to the COA application, the Caddo Parish Court House per the most recent update in 2015 of the historic district is indeed a Contributing Element to the Shreveport Commercial Historic District.

Having no additional discussion by the HPC, the Chair called for a motion. A motion by Commissioner White that be COA be approved with the two MPC conditions. Commissioner Joiner seconded the motion; unanimously passed.

Certificate of Appropriateness – COD 20-15-HPC (new construction): 2213 Fairfield Avenue, Fairfield Historic District.

MPC Staff Case Report: Ms. Moradian presented the application submitted by the property owner containing one map, one aerial photo map, four photographs, nine diagrams, and one document. Applicant is requesting to add two porches to the existing residential dwelling and install fencing. The MPC found the proposed changes are harmonious with character of the district; not adversely affect the historic character of the property; and the proposed changes are mostly hidden from the street view. MPC had no conditions.

Public Comments: There was no public comment on this request.

HPC Discussion and Vote on Recommendation: The Chair asked for comments. Commissioner Callaway stated the historic residential dwelling is set back considerably from the main street, Fairfield Avenue with numerous trees between the road and house. Commissioner White verified data on the fencing and driveway connector from the adjacent property also owned by the applicant.

Having no additional discussion by the HPC, the Chair called for a motion. A motion by Commissioner Callaway that the COA be approved; Commissioner White seconded the motion; and the motion unanimously passed.

5. Updates and Business Items

a. Update on COA 20-11-HPC, 802 Common Street (Shreveport Commercial Historic District) – creating a new parking lot: Commissioner Callaway noted visiting the site and updated the Commission. The initial work of clearing the old concrete foundations and leveling the lot had been done per COA approval during June 16, 2020 meeting of HPC. Mr. Bailey noted that Phase 1, to pave the parking lot is to be completed and then once done, then Phase 2 would be cause a new COA to be submitted by SPAR to address HPC's Conditions. HPC conditions were noted in the Minutes for June 16, 2020.

b. HPC Review of all COA / COD requests and Determination of No Material Effect: Mr. Bailey noted a talk with Director, MPC on this topic and suggested the Chair, HPC would review all requests that MPC considers should result in a memo of Determination of No Material Effect. This memo would allow the owner to conduct normal repair and replace activities in the maintenance of a historic property, short of triggering a Certificate of Appropriateness. The Chair agreed with this way ahead.

6. Public Comments: There were no public comments or questions.

7. Mr. Bailey was recognized by the Chair; provided information requested previously by Commissioner Callaway on a series of historic properties. Commissioner Callaway thanked him and asked to check on the rehabilitation status for a historic building at 401 Sprint Street (corner of Spring and Travis Streets) since this effort would need a future Certificate of Appropriateness. Also Commissioner Callaway noted partial roof collapse at the rear of this Contributing Element to the Shreveport Commercial Historic District.

8. Chair's concluding remarks: Commissioner Joiner informed all present of working on new neighborhood boundaries based on preliminary data of the 2020 US Census. He showed maps of how the areas are being named and graphically presented. He requested the attending MPC planners to assist in clarifying proper names of areas within Shreveport to include those containing organized historic districts.

9. Adjournment: Having no addition business to conduct, the Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Commissioner White made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner Callaway; with resulting unanimous vote. Chair adjourned the Meeting at 5:05pm.