

Shreveport Historic Preservation Commission

MINUTES September 15, 2020

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

Commissioners

Commissioner Gary Joiner, Chair
Commissioner Billy Wayne, Vice Chair
Commissioner Lane Callaway, Secretary
Commissioner Cheryl White

Visitors

None

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 4:00pm with a quorum present.
2. Opening Remarks: Noting no Public visitors were present, the Chair asked the Legal Advisor if the reading of the memorandum, *Identifying Procedures for Review of Application*, could be waived and thus the memorandum was not read.
3. Approval of HPC Minutes for August 18, 2020: The Chair asked for questions or discussion on the Minutes for August. Having none, the Chair asked for a motion to approve. Motion to approve was made by Commissioner White and seconded by Commissioner Wayne; unanimously passed.
4. New Business:
Certificate of Appropriateness – COA 20-16-HPC (alteration): 2106 Fairfield Avenue, Contributing Element to the Fairfield Historic District, is a two-storied frame Colonial Revival built circa 1900.

MPC Staff Case Report: Ms. Moradian asked the COA be postponed due to not receiving requested information from the Applicant for material that would be significant to the HPC's consideration and recommendation.

HPC Discussion and Vote on Recommendation: The Chair asked for a motion to defer to the October meeting. Commissioner White made the motion to defer pending receipt by MPC of the requested information. Commissioner Wayne seconded; 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 the site had not changed since the update report to the HPC on August 18, 2020. Mr. Bailey noted HPC conditions stated on June 16, 2020 had not yet been addressed by Director Shreveport Parks and Recreation by a site plan but that a new COA would be needed to address HPC Conditions.

b. Update on Civil Rights Heritage Trail: Commissioner Joiner provided an update on the progress made and appreciated the collaboration by Commissioner Wayne in the effort. Commissioner Joiner noted the identification of 37 significant sites for the Trail.

c. Update on GIS Project: Commissioner Joiner noted the assistance of the MPC planners in this effort. The intent of this project is to graphically identify significant sites within the City by category and names so to create a very accurate geographic baseline. The project is to cover major roadways, school grounds, and neighborhoods among other categories. Also historic districts listed on the National Register of Historic Places are being highlighted. Once completed, this GIS project will contribute to the spatial dimensions of Shreveport and aid in the inventory of historic properties within the City.

d. Louisiana Historical Marker for St Rest Baptist Church: Commissioner Callaway updated that the application submitted by the church's committee appears to have been approved by the board of review in Baton Rouge. He noted the church should be receiving a notification letter soon from Baton Rouge as well as the HPC contributions in advising and collaborating with the church committee in this once-a-year application process.

e. State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) request for information: Commissioner Callaway researched and provided to SHPO requested date of construction and historic notes on the original Fairfield Manor Apartments located just off Southern Avenue on Beckham – Dudley Drives. From research the date was circa 1950 and several documents were provided to the SHPO along with clarifying notes of a name change to Lakeville Townhomes and that the complex suffered physical damage during the recent Hurricane Laura.

f. Election of HPC Officers for FY2021 (term October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021): The Chair asked for discussion and motions on nominations for HPC officers for the forthcoming fiscal year. Commissioner White noting continuity made the motion that all current officers remain in their respective offices. The Chair asked for a second and vote on this motion. Commissioner Wayne second and the vote was unanimous.

6. Public Comments: Although not on the agenda, Commissioner Callaway asked HPC to recognize and thank Ms. Gernine Mailhes, Office of City Attorney City of Shreveport for her advice and support to HPC. This is the last day for Ms. Mailhes to be the Legal Advisor to HPC. Additionally, Commissioner Callaway asked Mr. Bailey for clarification on two items.

a. What is the formal name for MPC now it seems Caddo Parish was withdrawing its support? Mr. Bailey explained no change yet since any final decision on such an organizational change would not be effective until January 1, 2022.

b. What is the status of the question from the August 18 session on HPC review of requests for a Determination of No Material Effect memorandum in lieu of a COA for a historic property and if the Director MPC would sign such a memorandum? Mr. Bailey noted procedures coordinated so when Permits received a request for such a memorandum from an applicable owner, this request would be staffed within MPC for a recommendation, followed by Chair HPC

review, then signed by Director MPC, and sent to Chief Building Official / Director Department of Public Works for decision.

7. 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 4:29pm.