

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

December 17, 2008

Be it remembered that the Oxford Historic Preservation Commission did meet in regular session on Wednesday, December 9, 2008, at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall courtroom with the following members present:

Cody Giles
Kevin Frye
Harry Owens
Jack McKenzie

Katrina Hourin, Assistant City Planner
Tiffany Smith, Historic Preservation Consultant
Alicia Thompson, Secretary

The following members were absent:

Jeff Asti
Camp Best
John Morgan King
Molissia Swaney

1. The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Giles.

After the meeting was called to order, the following business was transacted:

2. Due to the lack of a quorum, approval of the minutes from the November 12, 2008 meeting was postponed to the next meeting.

REGULAR AGENDA

3. **Public Hearing on South Lamar Historic District's nomination to the National Register of Historic Places by Bill Gatlin – Mississippi Department of Archives and History.**

A presentation was made by Bill Gaitlin from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History before the Commission regarding the South Lamar Historic District's nomination to the National Register of Historical Places. The presentation provided the criteria required and a brief summary of the benefits to being listed on the National Register of Historic Places. He provided handouts and information regarding the National Register of Historic Places and stated that the designation is strictly an honorary designation with no restrictions placed on property owners within the district. He further stated that restrictions are placed upon property owners within the districts by their local Historic Preservation Commission. Mr. Gaitlin also provided property owners within the South Lamar District with information on the state and federal tax incentives for participating in the program. He also stated that property owners with property located in the district have the option to participate or not participate in the program. Mr. Gaitlin

further stated that any property owners that choose not to participate in the program must submit their request in the form of a notarized letter no later than January 15, 2009.

After further discussion and questions from the Commission and public, no action was taken.

4. Discussion on CLG Grant Informational Brochure.

Assistant City Planner, Katrina Hourin came before the Commission to discuss the possibility of using CLG grant monies to create an informational brochure for the local Historic Preservation Commission. She stated that the brochure would include information for property owners within the Historic Districts explaining what the Historic Preservation Commission does. Discussion was made regarding the brochure. Suggestions came from Commissioner McKenzie that the brochures are not printed and distributed until the designation of the South Lamar Historic District is done so that it includes the language of tax credits to property owners.

Further discussion was made and no action was taken.

5. Complimentary Review of Property located at 911 South Lamar Boulevard.

Dick Marchbanks came before the Commission representing Ernie and Pat Lowe seeking a complimentary review of property located at 911 South Lamar Boulevard. Mr. Marchbanks informed the Commission that the Lowe's were planning to sell their current residence at 911 South Lamar Boulevard and are proposing to construct a new residential structure located on the adjacent lot. Mr. Marchbanks presented the Commission with a site plan and possible house plans. Mr. Marchbanks stated that the Lowe's were seeking advice and guidance from the Commission before proceeding with their plans. Discussion was made between Mr. Marchbanks and the Commission regarding the setbacks. Commissioner Giles expressed concern with the setbacks and the Planning Commission's requirements. Commissioner McKenzie suggested that fellow commissioners review the plans and drive to the proposed site when making their decision. Historic Preservation Consultant Tiffany Smith agreed, but reminded Commissioner McKenzie that he should recuse himself from the vote because he is a neighbor. Mrs. Smith also expressed concern that the scale of the proposed plan is too large for Buchanan Avenue and reminded the Commission that it recently denied an applicant's request because of the scale. Tim Akers advised the applicants to come before the Historic Preservation Commission with their plans before proceeding to the Planning Commission. Comments came from Ernie Lowe stating that the proposed structure would be a primary residence for him and his wife and would not be rented out. Property owners within the South Lamar Historic District spoke in support of the project for a single family residence. Further discussion was made between the Commission and the applicants on the setbacks and plans. Commissioner Owens suggested that the applicants provide the Commission with a plat of the property including the setbacks.

After further discussion, the Commission informed the applicants that it would review their plans when a quorum was present and make a vote.

There being no further questions from the public or the Commission, no action was taken.