

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Be it remembered that the Oxford Historic Preservation Commission did meet in regular session on Tuesday August 9, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall courtroom with the following members present:

Jeff Asti, Chairman
John McKenzie, Vice Chairman
Sonia Weinberg Thompson
Shawn Telford
Campbell Best
Julie Spears
Molissia Swaney
Brian Hyneman
Babs Ton

Katrina Hourin, Assistant City Planner
Lynn Conerly, Secretary

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jeff Asti.
2. **Approval of the Agenda.** Chairman Asti asked if there were any changes to the agenda. The case number for First Baptist Church is 149, not 150. There being no further changes, motion was made by Commissioner McKenzie and seconded by Commissioner Hyneman to approve the amended agenda.

All present voting aye.

The motion was approved and the agenda was accepted.

- 3-5 **Approval of the Minutes from the June 12, 2011 Meeting, July 14, 2011 Meeting and July 27, 2011 Meeting.** Chairman Asti asked if there were any changed to the minutes.

Deanie Calhoun's name was misspelled in the July 14th minutes.

There being no questions or comments from the public or Commission, motion was made by Commissioner McKenzie and Seconded by Commissioner Hyneman.

All present voting aye.

The motion was approved and the minutes were accepted.

REGULAR AGENDA

6. **Public Hearing #147-Dorris Crawford-1403 East Jackson Avenue:** Mr. Robert Schultz came before the Commission representing the applicant, Dorris Crawford. Ms. Crawford is seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness to replace the existing (2) electric light fixtures with new gas lights on the front of the building. The light fixtures will be copper. Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to approve and Commissioner Swaney seconded the motion to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness.

All present voting aye.

The motion was approved

7. **Public Hearing #148- Todd Bertolet-410 South 9th St.:** Mr. Corey Alger is representing Todd Bertolet. Mr. Bertolet is seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for a fence and a “mottled” finish on the brick.

Discussion was made among the board members regarding the location of the fence. After reviewing the plans, Commissioner Swaney inquired about the materials of the fence. After further discussion and discovering the fence detail drawing specified wrought iron, Commissioner Swaney was satisfied.

Mr. Alger explained the issues with the existing brick veneer. The maintenance of the brick over the years created visually unattractive inconsistencies. Mr. Alger proposed a solution which involves a mortar rub. This process will mask brick inconsistencies. Once the mortar has been applied, it will be pressure washed off so as much as the brick as possible will show.

Commissioner Ton, concerned with the look of the house, commented the original plans proposed paint and the Commission didn't like the light color. Commissioner Ton likes how it looks now, but this is not what was approved. Commissioner Ton suggested Mr. Alger do a “mock up” board next time so the Commission will know exactly what it will look like.

Commissioner Ton made a motion to accept the fence and the regressive process to change the texture of the facade. Commissioner McKenzie seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Asti-	Aye	Hyneman	Nay
Spears	Aye	Swaney	Nay
McKenzie	Aye	Thompson	Nay
Telford	Aye		
Ton	Aye		

The motion was approved to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness.

8. Public Hearing #149-First Baptist Church-property at 631 Van Buren Avenue:

Robert Allen, Administrative Pastor, appeared before the commission requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness to demolish. The property was purchased from Mike Bridge. The house was rental property and over the years has deteriorated. The request for demolition that First Baptist Church is seeking is through Section 54-31 Public Safety. This request is consistent with the recent demolition to 1445 South Lamar. Commission Asti stopped Mr. Allen and told him what happens on each property is individual to that piece of property. Everything is a "De Novo" review. Also, proceeding under Public Safety Exclusion 54-31, you are required to have a declaration from the City or the fire department stating the property is unsafe or dangerous. There is nothing in the application.

Chairman Asti stated there cannot be a ruling today because there is no declaration from the City or Fire Department. Commissioner Asti commented this is a great opportunity for discussion. The discussion will proceed without a vote.

A discussion about the possibility of demolition for the building on the property at 631 Van Buren Avenue took place. Mr. Allen stated the property was purchased to be torn down. Mike Stephens, of Brough & Stephens, conducted an inspection. Mr. Stephens indicated it would be extremely difficult to make the structural repairs to this home and repairs would be costly. Also, Mr. Stephens indicated trying to move the house would be difficult. The structure would likely have to be disassembled into various sections to move.

Discussion continued that First Baptist Church should have had the property inspected before the purchase. Jim Pryor and Ben Hellums approached the Commission individually about this property. Both are in favor of the demolition. Doug and Margaret Fancher and Becky Moreton also approached the Commission and they are in favor of preserving this home.

The Commission would like to see this home renovated. Commissioner Asti stated it is the responsibility of the board to preserve all resources, if possible. Commissioner Asti asked the entire Commission to go out and investigate and see if this property can be preserved.

Commissioner Asti asked for a motion to table until the September meeting. Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to table the Certificate of Appropriateness until September meeting and Commissioner Ton seconded.

All present voting aye.

The motion was approved to table until the September meeting.

9. **Re-Organization of the Design Guidelines-** Edye Conkerton came before the Commission to present the re-organized guidelines. Katrina Hourin, reminded everyone they received a link digitally. There were no questions or comments so approval is needed.

Commissioner Asti asked for a motion to approve the Guidelines. Commissioner Hyneman made a motion to approve the guidelines and Commissioner Swaney seconded.

All present voting aye.

The motion was approved the Guidelines.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, motion was made by Commissioner McKenzie and seconded by Commissioner Telford to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.