



CITY OF ST. MARYS
418 OSBORNE STREET
ST. MARYS, GEORGIA 31558

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
May 15, 2012

The meeting began at 5:30 PM.

HPC roll call indicated there was a quorum present for the meeting. The following committee members were present: Winona Hartung, Tim Ward, Kay Westberry, Chris Thurner, George Beaver, and James Stacy. Rosemary Rillo was not in attendance.

Roger Weaver and Michele Wood represented the Planning Department.

APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 24, 2012 MEETING MINUTES:

Chris Thurner made a motion to approve the April 17, 2012 minutes as presented; Second George Beaver. All were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS: Chris Thurner made a motion to move the order of service to allow the New Business to be reviewed prior to the Old Business; Second by James Stacy. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **COA-FENCE:** Jay Lassiter, 202 Ready Street, St. Marys, GA 31558 is requesting approval to build an antique brick fence on the north side of the property between the front and rear yard at 202 Ready Street. The property is zoned R-1, Tax Parcel S41-04-004A.

Jay Lassiter presented his request to the HPC expressing his wishes to place an antique brick and wrought iron fence of 5'-0" in height on the north side yard of the property from his house to the property line. Roger Weaver, Planning Director, stated any fence less than six foot in height would not require a building permit. Tim Ward made a motion to approve the request as submitted; Second by George Beaver. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

2. **COA-WINDOWS:** Lucy Lyons, PO Box 2043, Highlands, NC 28741 is requesting approval to replace the existing windows at 104 E. Weed Street. The property is zoned R-1, Tax Parcel S41-05-009.

Julie Banks, representative of Ms. Lyons, presented the request to the HPC. Ms. Lyons request was to replace the existing windows with energy efficient windows that will look the same. They are historically accurate six over six windows. Mr. Thurner questioned whether the screens should be permitted. Ms. Banks stated most people don't use the screens. Roger Weaver stated the screens would normally be the choice of the property owner. Chris Thurner made a motion to approve the request for the windows; Second by George Beaver. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The applicant also requested to install lattice on both sides of the front porch for privacy purposes. Ms. Banks stated the lattice will not be attached to the house and that it will be freestanding from the bottom. Discussion was brought

forth from Mr. Thurner regarding whether the lattice should be approved due to the guidelines favoring open porches. Mr. Thurner stated any lattice on the sides of the porch would radically alter the house. Other HPC members stated it would probably be considered as more of a trellis for gardening purposes. Tim Ward made a motion to approve the lattice as submitted: Second by James Stacy. The vote was (3) to approve, (2) to deny. George Beaver and Chris Thurner denied the request.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **COA-ALTERATION:** Donna Asbell, The Blue Goose, 126 Osborne Street, St. Marys, GA 31558 is requesting approval for alterations to the underpinning of the structure. The property is zoned C-1, Tax Parcel S41-09-001.

Ms. Asbell had come before City Council on April 16, 2012 to appeal the denial of the Historic Preservation Commission in regard to her COA application for the underpinning of her property at 126 Osborne Street. It was the request of City Council to have Ms. Asbell come back before the Historic Preservation Commission at the May 15, 2012 HPC meeting to see if she and the HPC could come up with a resolution to the issue. Ms. Asbell presented two options to the HPC for consideration. After much discussion and negotiation by both parties, the Historic Preservation Commission and Ms. Asbell did come to an agreement.

Tim Ward made a motion to approve the request as noted below; Second by Chris Thurner. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

That Ms. Asbell dba The Blue Goose:

- **cut off 1" of the top sloped board, leaving a 1" gap so the board is not attached to the exterior siding;**
- **increase the gap between the vertical boards to 1" minimum or larger to comply with calculated and verified FEMA and IBC flood requirements as well as match the similar detail at the Spencer House;**
- **provide a minimum of 2" between finish grade and the lowest vertical board;**
- **have all work accomplished on or before July 1, 2012, with all flood related calculations submitted to the building department for approval as soon as possible.**

Ms. Asbell will be withdrawing her appeal of the previous HPC decision from City Council.

DISCUSSION:

1. **Rezoning of the Gilman Boathouse Property to C-1.** – Roger Weaver shared that the Gilman Boathouse Property was rezoned to C-1 at the April 24, 2012 Planning Commission meeting. Mr. Weaver stated this would not affect the jurisdiction of the HPC for this property.
2. **Oak Tree located on the property of First Baptist Church on Osborne Street** – The HPC requested the Planning Department to write a letter to the church requesting a bumper strip or some other protective measure to be placed in front of the tree to protect the tree roots.
3. **HPC Checking Account** – Discussion was made in regard to Winona Hartung and James Stacy being added as signors to the HPC checking account with George Beaver who is currently listed as a signor on the account.
4. **Vinyl Windows with Grills Inside the Panes** - Discussion was made regarding revising the guidelines in regard to applied mullions and updating permitted materials.
5. **Rubber Mulch in the HPC District** – Roger Weaver shared with the HPC that he had discussed the rubber mulch with Bobby Marr, Public Works Director. Mr. Marr stated they will continue to use the rubber mulch they have until it is gone and then they will make other decisions on what to use. Mr. Weaver stated Mr. Marr had said the remainder of the mulch would not be used in the downtown area.
6. **HPC Training from Valdosta** – Kay Westberry stated, with the agreement of the HPC members, she will be taking a few minutes at HPC meetings to give highlights from the HPC training she received in Valdosta.
7. **Maintenance of the Waterfront Park** – Discussion was made regarding how well Public Works employee, Jeff Berg has been maintaining the waterfront park. Tim Ward requested the HPC possibly recognize Mr. Berg by issuing a certificate of appreciation for work well done to be presented at a future City Council meeting. Motion

was made by George Beaver to have the Planning Department prepare a certificate for Mr. Berg to be presented at an upcoming City Council meeting; Second by Tim Ward. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

8. **Orange Hall** – Roger Weaver shared with the HPC regarding the City will be coming before the HPC for approval of up lighting and walkaway lighting. Mr. Weaver also shared that the City is receiving estimates of what it will cost to repair the rotten wood and the painting of Orange Hall to be paid with SPLOST funds.

GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC – *No comments.*

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING:

Chris Thurner made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Second by George Beaver. All were in favor to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:59PM.