



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

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING**  
**March 13, 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: Tim Ward, Kay Westberry, Chris Thurner, Rosemary Rillo, George Beaver, and James Stacy. The HPC also welcomed their newest member Ms. Winona Hartung who was present as well.

Roger Weaver and Michele Wood represented the Planning Department.

**APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 17, 2012 MEETING MINUTES:**

The February 21, 2012 HPC Meeting had been cancelled due to no items submitted for review. *Tim Ward made a motion to approve the January 17, 2012 minutes as presented; Second Rosemary Rillo. All were in favor.*

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **COA – ALTERATION:** - Donna Boyett, Southern Antiques & Interiors, 122-C Osborne Street, St. Marys, GA 31558 is requesting approval to change the front facade at 122-C Osborne Street. The property is zoned C-1, Tax Parcel S41-09-003.

*Sherry Perrault represented Ms. Boyett's and her request to the HPC. The HPC members had already received the application in their packets. The only other change was to add a barn door on the Stable Alley side of the building. There were no comments or questions from the public. Motion was made by Rosemary Rillo to approve the request as submitted; Second by George Beaver. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.*

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **COA - SIGN PERMIT:** - Mike Neff, 101 E. Bryant Street, St. Marys, GA 31558 is requesting approval for an additional sign for the Spencer House Inn located at 101 E. Bryant Street. The property is zoned C-1, Tax Parcel S41-05-004.

*Mr. Neff presented his request to add an additional sign to be placed inside the fence on the northwest corner of the Spencer House Inn property. There were no comments or questions from the public. Motion was made by James Stacy to approve the request as submitted; Second by Tim Ward. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.*

2. **COA – SIGN PERMIT:** - St. Marys Realty, 122-B Osborne Street, St. Marys, GA 31558 is requesting approval for an additional sign to be located at 122-B Osborne Street. The property is zoned C-1. Tax Parcel S41-09-003.

*Brenda Holland presented the request on behalf of St. Marys Realty. Ms. Holland presented the print copy and the dimensions of the sign to the HPC. There were no comments or questions from the public. Motion was made by Rosemary Rillo to approve the request subject to the applicant notching the corners of the sign and using script that*

would be comparable to their other signs at that location; Second by Tim Ward. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

- Donna Asbell Appeal – During the HPC discussion, Chris Thurner commented that the only application an applicant can appeal is the denial of a COA. At the October 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, Ms. Asbell had stated, due to the expenses involved, she was unable to come up with an alternative solution in regard to replacing the lattice from the rear of the structure. Ms. Asbell was in agreement to put the lattice back and the HPC approved Ms. Asbell's request in putting the lattice back around the rear of the structure. The motion was to approve and not deny that request. A motion was made by Chris Thurner to request Roger Weaver, Planning Director, to request the City Manager to postpone Ms. Asbell's appeal request from the March 19, 2012 City Council Meeting. Also, to request Roger Weaver, in the capacity of Building Director, to require Ms. Asbell to remove the wood underpinning to be in compliance with the HPC decision on October 18, 2012; Second by Rosemary Rillo. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.
- Update on Cemetery Authority Progress – Kay Westberry gave an update to the HPC members.
- Rubber Mulch Used by Public Works in the Historic District Parks, etc. – A motion was made by Rosemary Rillo to submit a letter to the City Manager, copying City Council, to request that the rubber mulch be used in other locations of the City other than the historic district; Second by Chris Thurner. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.
- Form Letters for our Business with the Public – Not addressed at this meeting.
- Fees for Appeals which are Charged by Other Historic District Commissions – Not addressed at this meeting.
- HPC Training, Valdosta, March 30-31 – Tim Ward made a motion to have the HPC Chair's registration fee for the 2012 HPC Training Conference reimbursed to Kay Westberry from funds in the HPC checking account; Second by Rosemary Rillo. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.
- Georgia Power – RE: Trees and Underground Wires – Not addressed at this meeting.
- Joseph McCollough – Porch Resolution – Roger Weaver stated he would go by personally and address the issue with Mr. McCollough regarding the June 27, 2011 decision of the HPC in removing the east wall of the side porch facing Dillingham Street and install a porch rail to match the existing porch. HPC requested the Planning Department submit a letter to Mr. McCollough as well.
- Orange Traffic Cones at Thomas Chapman's property on Dillingham Street – Roger Weaver stated he would stop by and speak with Mr. Chapman regarding the removal of the cones.
- Landscaping of Oak Grove - Motion was made by George Beaver to make a request to the Tree Board to donate trees to replace trees that were removed in the cemetery; Second by Chris Thurner. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion. Roger Weaver stated the HPC will be involved in locating where the trees will be planted.
- The Dead Tree at the Britt's Home - Conyers & Wheeler Street – The HPC requested the City donate a tree to be placed in the right-of-way at 401 Wheeler Street with the understanding the property owner would be required, per their original agreement, to water the tree or a fine would be enforced if they did not comply. The HPC also requested Roger Weaver to speak to the First Baptist Church regarding the care of a replaced tree on their property.
- Catholic & Methodist Church Parking – Landscaping Medians – The HPC expressed their concerns regarding the Sunday parking issues on Ready Street. Discussion was made regarding means to prevent people from parking in the medians. Roger Weaver stated the City has not taken any negative viewpoints regarding plantings in the median. Mr. Weaver offered to request Public Works place a No Parking sign at the corner. This was discussion only.

- Rewriting our Operating Guidelines to Tighten up Ambiguous Areas – The HPC requested Chris Thurner to work with Mr. Weaver to review the operational procedures of our present HPC ordinance. Mr. Thurner agreed to their request.
- Sandwich Board Signs – Letter to Sign Board with HPC Requests - Roger Weaver stated the Planning Commission would be reviewing the second draft of the revised sign ordinance at the March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. After they have made their final changes, Mr. Weaver will bring it to the HPC for review regarding signs in the historic district.

**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 7:05PM.*