



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

## **HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES** **May 21, 2013**

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: Kay Westberry, Tim Ward, George Beaver, Chris Thurner, Rosemary Rillo and Winona Hartung. James Stacy was not in attendance.

Roger Weaver and Michele Wood represented the Planning Department.

**APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 9, 2013 MEETING MINUTES:** *George Beaver made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted; Second by Winona Hartung. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.*

**OLD BUSINESS:** - None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **ADDITION:** Fred & Beth Mercier, 213 Osborne Street, St. Marys, GA 31558 has submitted a Certificate of Appropriateness request to construct a 12' x 18' addition to their existing 24' x 14' garage. The property is zoned C-1, Tax Parcel S41-06-013.

*The Merciers were not in attendance. The request was postponed until the June meeting.*

2. **SIGN PERMIT:** - Barbara Ryan, St. Marys Little Theatre, 511 Osborne Street, 100 Osborne Street, St. Marys, GA 31558 has submitted a Certificate of Appropriateness request for a banner, changed out periodically, to announce upcoming performances at the St. Marys Little Theatre to be placed in front of the St. Marys Welcome Center at 111 Osborne Street.

*Barbara Ryan presented the request to the HPC. The HPC expressed some of their concerns such as the ordinance states exempt banners (up to 24 square feet and permitted for 30 days) are to be placed flat against the building; this banner would be hung between the posts. Also, banners are considered temporary signage. Ms. Rillo questioned if the St. Marys Welcome Center were permitted to hang the banners on a continual basis would it not be setting a precedent for other businesses to request to do the same? There were some concerns regarding the HPC approving the banners to be placed at the St. Marys Welcome Center for just the St. Marys Little Theatre and not allowing other businesses the same privilege to advertise for their business at a city agency. Ms. Ryan stated she felt the St. Marys Little Theatre was being singled out. That there were other businesses that had banners up in the downtown area for extended periods of time. Discussion was then presented of the St. Marys Little Theatre designing a permanent sign where the text could be changed out intermittently as needed which could possibly be used by other businesses as well. Tim Ward made a motion to postpone the request to allow the St. Marys Little Theatre to bring a design of a permanent sign to be reviewed at the June HPC Meeting; Second by Rosemary Rillo. Voting was unanimous in favor of the decision.*

3. **DRIVEWAY:** - Tom & Beverly Cyphers, 206 W Bryant Street, St. Marys, GA 31558 has submitted a Certificate of Appropriateness request for a broom finish concrete driveway at 206 West Bryan Street. The property is zoned R-1, Tax Parcel S40-03-004.

*Beverly Cyphers presented her request for a broom finish concrete driveway with an adjacent walkway up to the steps. There were no questions or comments from the public. Rosemary Rillo made a motion to approve the request as submitted; Second by Tim Ward. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.*

**DISCUSSION:**

- **Signs for the Historic District:** The Planning Department will present the design and cost information from the sign company at the June HPC meeting in regard to replacing the median or sandwich signs in the C-1 Historic District with permanent signs. These signs would be similar to those in Fernandina Beach and would be for businesses that are located off streets perpendicular to Osborne Street.
- **State Historic Preservation Commission Training Conference:** Kay Westberry shared information with the HPC Members gathered from the State Historic Preservation Training Conference.
- **Orange Hall Update:** Roger Weaver provided an update on the work being done at Orange Hall to the HPC.
- **FEMA Flood Rates:** Roger Weaver shared information regarding possible increases of Flood Insurance premiums in the near future.
- **Possible Violation:** George Beaver requested the Planning Department to check the property at 303 W Weed Street in regard to a fence recently placed on the property .

**Next Public Meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission:** The next regular monthly meeting will be June 18, 2013 at 5:30PM in the Council Chambers at 418 Osborne Street, St. Marys, GA.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING:** Rosemary Rillo made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Second by George Beaver. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:20PM.

**GENERAL NOTES FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING:**

All items presented and discussed at the meeting were presented in an open forum so that the audience heard any discussions concerning applications. The meeting was voice recorded.