

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING
DECEMBER 30, 2020**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Donna Peterman, Acting Chair
Adrienne Andreae, Martha Bireda,
Sushila Cherian, Valerie Colbert,
Julie Price, Michael Wooster

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brad Gamblin

OTHERS PRESENT: Mitchell Austin, Chief Planner
Kelley Frohlich

CALL TO ORDER/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ms. Peterman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
- A. Roll Call
- B. Next Scheduled Meeting
- 1. January 28, 2021

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

- None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. November 19, 2020
- Ms. Price MOVED, Ms. Andreae SECONDED approval of the November 19, 2020, minutes.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. CA-33-2020 - 805 West Retta Esplanade - Certificate of Appropriateness - Info Only - New Roof
- Mr. Mitchell Austin, Chief Planner, briefly reviewed the information for CA-33-2020 from the agenda material, concluding staff approved the request administratively.
- B. CA-35-2020 - 117 West Marion Avenue - Certificate of Appropriateness - Action Required - Signage
- Mr. Austin briefly reviewed the CA-35-2020 application, concluding staff recommended approval of the request.
- Ms. Price verified the proposed signage was similar in character to the existing sign at the subject location.
- Ms. Price MOVED, Ms. Cherian SECONDED to approve CA-35-2020. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- C. CA-36-2020 - 209 West Olympia Avenue - Certificate of Appropriateness - Action Required - Signage
- Mr. Austin briefly reviewed the CA-36-2020 application, noting the proposed signage met the size and location requirements for window signs and staff recommended approval of the request.
 - Ms. Price questioned whether the proposed signage was intended to be temporary, expressing dissatisfaction with the aesthetics of same.
 - Mr. Austin replied staff could only regulate the location, type and size of signage and had no regulatory authority for the content of same, explaining the current sign code required window graphics not to consume more than one-third of the window area.
 - Discussion ensued regarding the aesthetics of window signs and potential methods to regulate same.
 - Ms. Price inquired whether staff reviewed the specifications for proposed signs prior to presentation to the Board.
 - Mr. Austin replied staff was looking to address the growing concern a number of businesses had installed signs prior to obtaining permission.
 - Ms. Bireda questioned whether members could legally make suggestions regarding the content of signs.
 - Mr. Austin replied same was protected speech under the constitution, concluding regulations for window graphics could be explored during revisions to the sign code.
 - Mr. Wooster MOVED, Ms. Colbert SECONDED to approve CA-36-2020.
 - VOTING AYE: Andreae, Bireda, Colbert, Wooster.
 - VOTIN NAY: Cherian, Peterman, Price.
 - MOTION CARRIED.
- D. CA-37-2020 - 117 West Marion Avenue - Certificate of Appropriateness - Action Required - Signage
- Mr. Austin briefly reviewed the CA-37-2020 application from the agenda material, concluding staff recommended approval of the request.
 - Mr. Wooster pointed out the graphics for the proposed signage were clear, questioning whether the City could require graphics on windows be more like same.
 - Mr. Austin replied staff could research same if directed to do so during revisions of the sign code.
 - Ms. Price MOVED, Ms. Cherian SECONDED to approve CA-37-2020. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- E. CA-38-2020 - 210 Taylor Street - Certificate of Appropriateness - Action Required - Signage
- Mr. Austin briefly reviewed the CA-38-2020 application from the agenda material, concluding staff recommended approval of the request.
 - A brief discussion ensued regarding the content of the proposed signage, with members confirming sign plans were not required for multi-tenant buildings.
 - Ms. Price MOVED, Ms. Andreae SECONDED to approve CA-38-2020. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. County Centennial

1. Subcommittee Reports

- Ms. Peterman announced a large article was published in the Sunday's newspaper relating to the history of the Charlotte County (County) Centennial.
- Ms. Price reported she attended a banner unveiling on December 15, 2020, at the Barron Collier Bridge and spoke positively of the event. She stated information regarding the locations for the travelling exhibits within the City would be provided by the next meeting.
- Mr. Austin then provided an update on the meeting with Fishermen's Village regarding their proposed historic markers (markers) along the Harborwalk and displayed the proposed content and locations for same from agenda material.
- Ms. Peterman suggested the content of the proposed markers relating to the Punta Gorda Hotel and Hotel Charlotte Harbor contain information on tourism in the area and questioned whether there were plans for installing the markers.
- Mr. Austin replied management from Fishermen's Village anticipated moving forward by January 2021, noting content for the markers required development by someone such as a historian.
- Mr. Wooster verified the design of all of the markers would be uniform with the existing marker, speaking positively of the style and content of same.
- Ms. Price questioned how the content for the existing marker was obtained.
- Mr. Austin replied same was developed by the Punta Gorda Historic Archives.
- Discussion ensued regarding possible entities which might assist with the content of the proposed markers.
- Ms. Peterman then inquired as to any updates relating to the markers required as part of the settlement with the Trabue family.
- Mr. Austin replied staff contacted the legal representatives involved in the lawsuit settlement and had not received a response regarding the proposed content for same.

- Ms. Peterman opined relevant information relating to the Trabue family would not be difficult to obtain as a large portion of the article on the Centennial discussed their history. She expressed desire to move forward with installing the markers, suggesting information be provided to the family for their approval.
- Mr. Austin replied he could discuss same with the City's Legal Department to see how they desired to proceed.

STAFF COMMENTS

- A. 2021 Meeting Dates
 - Mr. Austin pointed out the 2021 meeting dates in the agenda material.
- B. Historic District Parking Plan
 - Mr. Austin stated staff was continuing to work on the proposed revisions for the parking plan in the Historic District, noting same would be presented at City Council's January 20, 2021, meeting. He concluded the draft ordinance would return to the Board once staff received direction from City Council.

COMMITTEE/BOARD COMMENTS

- Ms. Bireda stated she received a letter regarding her term on the Board and expressed desire to apply for another term.
- Mr. Austin explained she should contact the City Clerk's Office regarding same.
- Mr. Wooster verified staff would direct Fishermen's Village toward the Historic Center for developing revised content for the markers based on discussion this date.
- Ms. Peterman questioned the status of the structure at 509 Gill Street, recalling the homeowners' intention to attend the meeting this date.
- Ms. Price replied the homeowners were unable to attend this date but anticipated they would attend the January 2021 meeting.
- Ms. Peterman inquired whether members should be provided with the ordinances which governed the Board's authority, expressing desire same be addressed in the Land Development Regulations (LDRs).
- Mr. Austin advised staff was scheduled to provide a presentation on transitioning from the Comprehensive Plan updates to the LDR updates, anticipating additional direction would be available after the January 2021 meeting. He then stated the Utilities Department provided him with railroad spikes discovered while replacing sewer mains.
- Ms. Peterman questioned the status of the plaque for the Barron Collier Bridge and whether same should be installed as part of the Centennial.
- Mr. Austin replied context for the associated marker was needed, verifying he would contact the County Historian to discuss development of the content for same.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

- Ms. Kelley Frolich questioned whether the window graphics of food at Mint Cuisine could be determined as adversely impacting the architectural and historic structure or district, noting same would prevent the need to change the ordinance.
- Mr. Austin explained that statement indicated the signage would not alter the architectural appearance of the building, noting window graphics were only affixed to the window and could not alter the building architecture.

ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting Adjourned: 9:56 a.m.

Donna Peterman, Acting Chair

Leah Pues, Recording Secretary