

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING
JANUARY 28, 2021**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Brad Gamblin, Chairman
Adrienne Andreae, Martha Bireda,
Sushila Cherian, Valerie Colbert,
Donna Peterman, Julie Price

MEMBERS ABSENT: Michael Wooster

OTHERS PRESENT: Mitchell Austin, Chief Planner
Fabiana Solano, Planning Intern
Theresa Murtha (via phone)

CALL TO ORDER/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Mr. Gamblin called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
- A. Roll Call
- B. Next Scheduled Meeting
- 1. February 25, 2021

CITIZENS COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

- None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. December 30, 2020
- Ms. Peterman MOVED, Ms. Colbert SECONDED approval of the December 30, 2020, minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. CA-39-2020 – 509 West Olympia Avenue - Certificate of Appropriateness – Information Only - Fence
- Mr. Mitchell Austin, Chief Planner, briefly reviewed the information for CA-39-2020 from the agenda material, concluding staff approved the request administratively.
- B. CA-01-2021 – 413 West Olympia Avenue - Certificate of Appropriateness - Information Only – New Construction
- Mr. Austin reviewed the information considered during staff’s evaluation of CA-01-2021, concluding staff approved the request administratively.
- C. CA-02-2021 – 123 Gill Street - Certificate of Appropriateness - Information Only – Shed
- Mr. Austin reviewed the information considered during staff’s evaluation of CA-02-2021, concluding staff approved the request administratively.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. County Centennial

1. Subcommittee Reports

- Discussed under Historic Marker Update.

2. Historic Marker Update

- Mr. Austin drew members' attention to the historic marker update, noting he would attempt to reach Ms. Theresa Murtha via phone regarding same.
- Ms. Peterman explained a meeting with Ms. Murtha was held to discuss the proposed markers at Fishermen's Village. She indicated she and Ms. Murtha also had suggestions on the content for the markers required as part of the settlement with the Trabue family.

NOTE: Ms. Murtha joined the meeting via phone at 9:15 a.m.

- Ms. Murtha announced a meeting was held with Ms. Peterman, Mr. Austin and a representative of Charlotte County (County), noting same included evaluation of the City's recommendations for the markers. She stated seven additional markers were agreed upon for placement in Fishermen's Village, providing a review of the proposed content and locations of same. She indicated the Trabue family was contacted about development of the two markers regarding Isaac Trabue's role in the City, noting no response had been received.
- Discussion ensued regarding the proposed content for the markers as well as the process for their development.
- Ms. Murtha verified a list of topics for the markers would be provided to members, requesting members forward their input to her.
- Mr. Austin added members could forward any additional information to staff and then same could be discussed at their next meeting.
- Ms. Peterman recalled a discussion relating to a dedication ceremony which would be held this year once the Fishermen's Village markers were complete.
- Mr. Austin stated the goal was to hold same as part of the year-long County centennial celebrations, indicating the dedication ceremony would not occur by the actual centennial date in April 2021.

B. Historic District Parking Plan

- Ms. Fabiana Solano, Planning Intern, provided a detailed review of the Overnight Parking Pass Program (Program), as delineated in the agenda material, noting the presentation related to issues with overnight on-street parking in the Historic District and staff's development of potential policies for same.
- Ms. Cherian inquired whether unintended consequences for the Program were considered.

- Mr. Austin replied staff was evaluating same, noting one unintended consequence was the discovery of existing Codes which required updating. He anticipated development of the Program would be a learning process for staff as they moved forward, adding the Program was simplified from the initial concept to ease modifying same if unintended consequences occurred.

STAFF COMMENTS

- Mr. Austin announced staff was directed to move forward with the contract to update the Land Development Regulations (LDRs), noting staff and the consultants had commenced the update process. He anticipated the initial public workshop would be held toward the end of March 2021, explaining the intent was to begin developing the regulating plans and to analyze development within the City block by block. He indicated public meetings would be primarily virtual and staff was working to maximize virtual participation. He noted staff was working with the Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association and Team Punta Gorda on an educational presentation on the LDRs. He stated a presentation along with a question and answer session which would be virtually accessible would be held February 10, 2021. He pointed out the proposed changes would primarily affect District 1, recommending members encourage participation by residents and business owners, particularly those who might be concerned with the integrity of the historic downtown and traditional neighborhood.
- Ms. Peterman indicated the LDR process could potentially strengthen the Board's abilities to preserve historic structures.
- Mr. Austin agreed, noting protection from demolition was the primary tool for same as there were currently no penalties for demolition of historic structures outside the National Register District. He stated the Board previously drafted a local register for City Council's consideration, adding there would need to be a reevaluation as well as a legal process for adopting same. He then stated applications for Certificates of Appropriateness (CA) had been received, anticipating more information would be available by the next meeting. He verified one of the CAs was to relocate the structure at 509 Gill Street, noting staff needed clarification of the new location for same.
- A brief discussion ensued between Mr. Austin and Ms. Price regarding the details of relocating a structure as well as the processes used for prior relocations.

COMMITTEE/BOARD COMMENTS

- Ms. Price announced the County's website indicated there would be live events as well as virtual events for the County centennial celebration, noting the information was forwarded to members. She stated she had not received a response from Mr. Brian Gleason about potentially locating an exhibit at the County Courthouse, adding she

would forward any information she obtained on the locations for the additional traveling exhibits.

- Mr. Gamblin pointed out a book he had available titled “The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring and Reconstructing Historic Buildings”, requesting Mr. Austin forward same to members.
- Ms. Bireda emphasized the importance of the fishing industry to the City’s history, opining the proposed markers should contain the true history of the City and enough space to pay tribute to the City’s historic families.
- Mr. Gamblin recalled a survey which revealed 1,000 permanent residents moved to the State of Florida each day, reiterating preservation of history was important.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

- None.

ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting Adjourned: 9:48 a.m.

Brad Gamblin, Chairman

Leah Pues, Recording Secretary