

Historic Preservation Commission

Regular Public Hearing

Tuesday, July 14, 2009

The City of Villa Rica Historic Preservation Commission met in a regular public hearing on Tuesday, July 14, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were Chairman Wallace Hibbard; Vice-Chairman Teresa Lotti; Commissioner William Mitchell; Commissioner Valerie Wilhelm; Commissioner Patricia Proctor; Community Development Director Taurus Freeman; and Zoning Technician Rita Peele. There were no members of the public in attendance.

Chairman Hibbard called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and requested that a discussion of the Fullerville jail and guest speaker, Dr. Ann McCleary, be added to “*New Business*” on the agenda. Commissioner Proctor motioned to approve the amended agenda with Commissioner Hibbard seconding. The motion carried 4/0.

In “Old Business”, Commissioner Proctor motioned to approve the April 14, 2009 and May 14, 2009 minutes. Commissioner Lotti seconded and the motion carried 4/0. Chairman Hibbard asked if the Logo was still tabled and Commissioner Lotti responded that it was.

Chairman Hibbard asked Freeman about the status of a visit to the Douglasville Historic Preservation Commission. Freeman said he will get a schedule of their meetings and will try to secure a night in which there will be some items of interest on the agenda.

Commissioner Hibbard inquired when the best time to develop a draft of development guidelines for commercial and residential properties within Villa Rica. Freeman responded that the commissioners and Staff could start reviewing the Cartersville ordinance as a guideline and make the appropriate changes for Villa Rica. Commissioner Hibbard suggested postponing the discussion until the next meeting, which would allow the commissioner’s time to review the Cartersville ordinance. Freeman advised combining residential and commercial components of the ordinance, specifically for Villa Rica.

During “New Business”, Commissioner Hibbard presented guest speaker, Dr. Ann McCleary. McCleary updated the commission on preliminary historic district boundaries that are being established for the historic resource assessment. Some of the boundaries will be revised, as the survey continues and district names will be assigned. McCleary and the graduate students are dividing the assessment into two phases, with the first phase being the historic districts as shown in the Comprehensive Plan; and two, covering the remainder of the city, including Thomas Dorsey Drive, Mt. Prospect Park, the CCC Camp and the cemetery. Initially it was thought there were about two-hundred and fifty (250) structures to assess, but in actuality there are approximately four hundred (400). McCleary hopes to have the assessment completed by fall of this year.

Freeman said he has numerous historic photos from Mr. Paul Free and invited everyone to come and view them.

Commissioner Hibbard proposed delaying a discussion about the “Fullerville Jail”, until the next meeting. Freeman told the commission that Staff will have a meeting, Thursday July 16, 2009,

with Shari Smith, City Accountant and Jeff Reese, Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation & Services, to discuss ways in which the city will be involved with the jail.

In “**Other Business**”, Freeman asked if there were any nominees for a new member to the Historic Preservation Commission. There were no suggestions and the new member search will continue.

There being no other comments, Commissioner Proctor motioned for adjournment at 8:10 p.m. and Commissioner Wilhelm seconded. The motion carried 4/0.

Historic Preservation Chairperson and Date

Community Development Director