

Historic Preservation Commission

Regular Public Hearing

Tuesday, February 9, 2010

The City of Villa Rica Historic Preservation Commission met in a regular public hearing on Tuesday, February 9, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were Chairman Wallace Hibbard, Commissioner William Mitchell, Commissioner Terri Lotti, Commissioner Valerie Wilhelm, Commissioner Patricia Proctor, Commissioner Dale Schwarzkopf, City Manager Larry Wood, 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 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Proctor motioned to approve the agenda, Commissioner Wilhelm seconded and the motion carried 4/0.

Old Business: Commissioner Wilhelm motioned to approve the December 8, 2009 minutes with a correction to the spelling of Dr. Ann McCleary. Commissioner Lotti seconded and the motion carried 4/0.

New Business: Commissioner Hibbard welcomed City Manager Larry Wood to the meeting, and then asked for a discussion for the wording of the recognition awards. Several ideas were discussed and everyone agreed to read the mission and vision statements and try to incorporate some of the verbiage to use for the recognition plaque and then decide on the wording.

Other Business: There was a discussion of how the Historic Preservation Commission could work with the Downtown Development Authority (DDA). Freeman said any rules or regulations adopted by the Historic Preservation Commission will have an effect on the DDA. Commissioner Schwarzkopf said it's important for the Historic Preservation Commission to show support with the DDA because it can provide historical support and financial support from federal tax credits. Commissioners Wilhelm and Proctor are members of the Preservation Committee, a sub-committee of the DDA, and they discussed the possibility of combining some of the plaque recognition functions to the Historic Preservation Commission. City Manager Wood responded favorably to the idea and said the Mayor and Council would like to see more cohesiveness between the committees within Villa Rica. Wood invited everyone to attend a meeting on February 25th, 6:00 p.m. at Tanner Medical Center. The meeting will be a "Move Villa Rica Forward" function and will have participants that are supportive of Villa Rica.

Commissioner Hibbard reminded everyone that the review of the design guidelines is still on hold while awaiting the report from Dr. McCleary.

Commissioner Proctor spoke about some promotional items that could be sold to benefit revitalization, promotion and restoration of the downtown district. Freeman will also provide some copies of the photos taken of the former train depot.

Commissioner Hibbard suggests finding out the availability of Dr. Ann McCleary and the graduate students to attend a Historic Preservation meeting. The meeting will be scheduled when they are available and Freeman will advise the commission when this will occur.

Wood talked about the budget review process for 2010, and explained that the department heads will present their budgets and then the budgets will be reviewed and prioritized. Freeman announced he had made a request to fund the second phase of the historic inventory.

Public Comments:

There being no other comments, Commissioner Proctor motioned to adjourn at 8:02 p.m., Commissioner Schwarzkopf seconded and the motion carried 4/0.

Historic Preservation Chairperson and Date

Community Development Director