



Villa Rica Historic Preservation Commission

Scheduled Public Hearing
Tuesday, November 9, 2010

The City of Villa Rica Historic Preservation Commission met in a regular scheduled public hearing on Tuesday, November 9, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were Chairman Wallace Hibbard, Commissioner William Mitchell, Commissioner Terri Lotti, Commissioner Valerie Wilhelm, Community Development Director Taurus Freeman and Assistant Zoning Administrator Rita Peele. Commissioner Dale Schwarzkoph was absent without notification and Commissioner Patricia Proctor was absent with notification. There were no members of the public in attendance.

Chairman Hibbard called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Wilhelm motioned to approve the agenda, Commissioner Lotti seconded and the motion carried 3/0.

Old Business: Commissioner Lotti motioned to approve the September 14, 2010 minutes, Commissioner Wilhelm seconded, and the motion carried 3/0.

New Business: Shanda Davidson with the University of West Georgia presented the first draft of the Downtown Design Guidelines. Davidson said she made notes on each section as to what city or county the guidelines came from. The guidelines and the next part of the historic survey should be completed by the end of the contract, which will be the end of December.

Commissioner Hibbard asked for pictures to be included and would like for the format to be user friendly and to have an index placed in the guidelines. Commissioner Wilhelm wants to have something at the end of the guidelines to assist with reference. There was a discussion about using *charrettes* to show or examples of historic significance. Commissioner Hibbard would like an overview of downtown Villa Rica, at the front of the guidelines and add a vision statement. Davidson agreed to create a vision statement for the guidelines.

There was a discussion of what type of photographs of historic structures will be used in the guidelines. Commissioner Lotti suggests using photographs of actual structures, as correct examples and to use something else in cases of incorrect examples.

Freeman said there will be public hearings when the guidelines are completed. Davidson reassured the Commission that she will be glad to assist with any questions or guidance even after the contract has expired.

Next on the agenda, was a discussion and update from the subcommittee about the Freedom Riders 50th anniversary. Commissioner Wilhelm reported that City Council will provide funding for the purchase of the plaque and also approved the location for placement of the plaque. Commissioner Proctor will be asked to draft another letter to U.S. Senator John Lewis updating on the progress made by the Commission and include the verbiage of the plaque. There was some discussion and examples shown for the style of the plaque and the best way to depict the route on the plaque. Commissioner Wilhelm wants to place the order by the first of the year. A motion was made by Commissioner Lotti to approve the style of the plaque. Commissioner Wilhelm seconded and the motion carried 3/0.

New Business: The discussion of the Historic Plaque Program Application and Historic Recognition Application was tabled until the December 14, 2010 meeting.

Other Business: Commissioner Mitchell invited the Commission to visit his property this spring and will send an invitation to everyone. He spoke about the importance of agriculture and cotton farming and how it influenced the growth of Villa Rica.

Freeman updated the group about the status of where the Commission stands with the ten (10) steps of Historic Completeness.

There was a discussion of starting the December 14th meeting at 6:00 p.m., in order to have ample time to review all the agenda items. Commissioner Hibbard suggested polling the commission to make sure everyone can attend, since this is during the holiday season. Commissioner Hibbard advised he will not be in attendance at the February and March 2011 meetings. There being no other business or public comments, Commissioner Lotti motioned to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. with Commissioner Wilhelm seconding and the motion carried 3/0.

Historic Preservation Chairperson and Date

Community Development Director