

Historic Preservation Commission

Regular Public Hearing

Tuesday, November 10, 2009

The City of Villa Rica Historic Preservation Commission met in a regular public hearing on Tuesday, November 10, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were Chairman Wallace Hibbard, Commissioner William Mitchell, Commissioner Valerie Wilhelm, Commissioner Patricia Proctor, Commissioner Dale Schwarzkoph, Community Development Director Taurus Freeman and Zoning Technician Rita Peele. Commissioner Lotti 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.

**Old Business:** Commissioner Proctor motioned to approve the October 13, 2009 minutes, with Commissioner Wilhelm seconding, and the motion carried 4/0. Commissioner Hibbard suggested tabling the logo.

**New Business:** A sub-committee report on the certificates of recognition was presented by Commissioners Wilhelm and Proctor. Commissioner Wilhelm reported that the plaques can be purchased for twenty-one (21) dollars. The plaques are black and gold, and are 8 x 10 in size. An approved logo will be at the top of the plaque. A template of the logo will cost thirty-five (35) dollars for a one time setup fee. Freeman stated he would go to the trophy shop and take a picture of the proposed plaque and email it to the Commissioners. The Commissioners set a tentative goal of possibly presenting the first plaque during February of 2010. Commissioner Hibbard asked how the nominee will be decided upon and with what frequency the plaques will be presented.

Commissioner Hibbard announced that he will not be present at the January 2010 meeting, and also he will email Commissioner Lotti to ask when the logo might be completed. Commissioner Schwarzkoph suggested finding a corporate sponsor to help with the cost of the plaques. Freeman suggested placing a story about the recipient in the newspaper and on the Villa Rica website. Commissioner Hibbard suggested having recommendations, discussion of nominees and a selection of recipients, at December's meeting. Freeman said he would do a resolution for City Council to propose adopting February as Historic Preservation Month.

**Other Business:** Commissioner Hibbard presented a draft of residential design guidelines. Commissioner Schwarzkoph asked Freeman about the requirements for someone owning a historic home and wanting to do renovations. The renovations would require zoning approval and then the applicant would get a building permit. Freeman said it was a requirement that would have to be approved by the Planning Commission and City Council and then it would be put in the Unified Development Code. There was some discussion of designations of the downtown historic districts. Commissioner Hibbard suggested that they should work on a draft of design guidelines for commercial properties before they work on the draft for residential properties.

Commissioner Mitchell asked Freeman if there were any penalties for someone violating the historic district requirements. Freeman said there is an appeal process and also possible legal action. There was more discussion about some of the requirements in the design guidelines and when someone would qualify as a "grandfathered" status. Commissioner Schwarzkoph

suggested using a resource page at the end of each category. Commissioner Hibbard reminded everyone to review the commercial design guidelines for the December meeting.

**Public Comments:**

There being no other comments, Commissioner Proctor motioned to adjourn at 8:26 p.m., Commissioner Schwarzkoph seconded and the motion carried 3/0.

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Historic Preservation Chairperson and Date

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Community Development Director