

Historic Preservation Commission

Regular Public Hearing

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

The City of Villa Rica Historic Preservation Commission met in a regular public hearing on Tuesday, March 10, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were Chairman Wallace Hibbard; Vice-Chairman Teresa Lotti; Commissioner William Mitchell; Commissioner Patricia Proctor; Commissioner Valerie Wilhelm; Interim 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 Wilhelm motioned to approve the February 10, 2009 minutes with Commissioner Lotti seconding. Freeman recommended a correction made to the minutes, containing the words; West Georgia College. The minutes will be corrected to say, University of West Georgia. Motion carried 4/0.

In "Old Business", Chairman Hibbard asked if approval of the Logo is still tabled. Commissioner Lotti responded that she had seen drafts of the item, and hopes to present something in the near future.

"New Business", Chairman Hibbard asked for the Commissioners to review the ordinances, provided by Staff, from the Cities of Acworth and Cartersville and be prepared at the next meeting to discuss ideas for a Villa Rica Historic Preservation Ordinance. Freeman will provide a model design guidelines ordinance, from the Department of Community Affairs, at the next meeting.

In "Other Business", Commissioner Lotti discussed the status of the historic survey and the Property Information Forms she emailed to the Commission. These are files for individual properties as well as districts. Also, there may be some possible funding and obtaining two graduate students for historic research within the City. Freeman and Commissioner Lotti are to meet with Ann McCleary, Director of the Center for Public History, of the University of West Georgia, on Thursday, March 12, 2009, to discuss the funding and use of the graduate students. Commissioner Proctor motioned to give Freeman and Commissioner Lotti authorization on behalf of the Historic Preservation Commission to go forth with signing a contract at the meeting, if appropriate. Freeman will speak with City Manager Larry Wood or City Attorney David Mecklin, about the legalities of Commissioner Lotti, signing the contract. Commissioner Wilhelm seconded the motion and the motion carried 4/0.

Commissioner Mitchell said his daughter has volunteered to photograph and video-tape the historic properties if the Commission would like to use her services. Commissioner Lotti suggested having an "open-house" to introduce the students and to have an article published in the paper to promote public awareness of the Historic Preservation Commission. Also, Sandy Lawrence, Unit Manager of the History Section of the Georgia Department of Transportation, is available on April 14, 2009 to present information about Architectural Surveys.

A motion to create two sub-committees consisting of an outreach committee and a public relations committee was made by Chairman Hibbard. The outreach committee will consist of Commissioners Wilhelm, Proctor and Mitchell. The public relations committee will consist of

Commissioners Lotti, Hibbard, and Staff. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Proctor, and carried 4/0.

Freeman informed the Commission that he has been unable to contact Jennifer Lewis with the University of Georgia, as a speaker for the Commission, but will continue to try and contact her.

Next, in "Other Business", a visit to the Douglasville Historic Preservation Commission meeting was discussed. Freeman said their meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month. The Commissioners decided they will attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting after they have a guest speaker.

Chairman Hibbard asked everyone to start making contacts for referrals for a new member for the Commission.

Freeman recommended that the Commissioners join a Historic Preservation Listserv, sponsored by the University of Georgia and Staff will forward the information on how to sign up.

Commissioner Proctor motioned to adjourn at 7:55 p.m., with Commissioner Wilhelm seconding. Motion carried 4/0.

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Historic Preservation Chairperson and Date

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Planning and Zoning Manager