

ROME HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, June 15, 2016

Carnegie Building, 607 Broad Street

ATTENDANCE

Members Present:

Bill Byington
Sam Freeman
Harry Wise
Luke Chaffin
Mary Sib Banks
Roger Wade

Staff:

Sue Hiller
Patrick Eidson
James Martin
Stephen Moseley
Bryan King

Others:

Brentz Turner
Billy Mitchell
Pat Kelley
Rev Kenny Ott
Glen Ferguson
Eric McDowell
Doug Walker
Rick Buice
Wayne Niederhuth
Patricia Niederhuth
Patti Brown
Thom Holt
Joan Ledbetter
Joe Tarplos
Terrell Shaw
Sheila Shaw

CALL TO ORDER

- 1. Chairperson Harry Wise called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Staff called roll; a quorum was met. Mr. Wise welcomed visitors and explained the procedures the meeting would follow.**
- 2. Consideration of Applications for Certifications of Appropriateness**

Case # 667-16

The applicant is proposing the following to 705 River Avenue:

1. To replace the roof with a similar (asphalt) shingle
2. Replace rotten soffits with wood
3. Replace broken glass panes on existing windows
4. To alter the landscaping on property
5. Replace glass on second story sunroom with screen material

The applicant Luke Chaffin recused himself and then spoke in favor of the project. He described a change in the original plan in which the glass in the sunroom would be replaced with screen material; it was modified to have neither screen nor glass but instead a continuation of the porch wrap around. Byington made a motion to approve with condition

that the continuation of the wrap around porch has the same railings. Banks seconded the motion, and the motion carried 5-0 with Chaffin recusing himself.

3. Reports from Committees

Hiller stated there were none.

4. Reports from Historic Preservation Staff

Hiller stated there were none.

5. Approval of Minutes

Wade made a motion to approve as submitted. Banks seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0, with Freeman withdrawn.

6. Other Business

Chairman Wise read Article 5 Section B of the Rules of Procedure referring to public hearing time limits. Chairman Wise opened the discussion of time limits to the commissioners. Chaffin stated his support. Freeman had no comment. Wade had no comment. Byington stated that the fore mentioned ten minute limit per side might be too short, and suggested to raise the time limit per side to 30 minutes. Hiller stated that 10 minutes is the minimum required by state law, but the commission could vote to allow more time than the required minimum. Banks stated her support. Byington made a motion that Case # 668-16 public hearing should be limited to 30 minutes per side. Wade seconded the motion, and the motion carried 6-0.

Case # 668-16

Applicants submitted a letter requesting the removal of the following properties from the Ave A Historic District (April 1, 2016).

260 North 5th Ave Rome, Ga

502 Avenue A Rome, Ga

504 Avenue A Rome, Ga

506 Avenue A Rome, Ga

508 Avenue A Rome, Ga

510 Avenue A Rome, Ga

512 Avenue A Rome, Ga

514 Avenue A Rome, Ga

516 Avenue A Rome, Ga

Chairman Wise introduced the case, and opened the public hearing. Mr. Ferguson, a representative for the applicants stated the structures had a negative effect on the value of the subject properties. King provided an inventory of the historic structures within the subject area. King stated that the Georgia Historic Preservation Division and Staff recommended retention of the properties in the Historic District. Hiller summarized the importance of the subject structures, and spoke to the procedure of the case. Mr. Holt, an applicant spoke in favor of the request, and stated that an unfair disadvantage has been placed on him in regards to a historic district island. Mr. Turner, representing the Neighborhood Alliance and the Oakdene Place Historic Association spoke in opposition to the request to alter the historic district. Mr. McDowell, representing the Summerville Park Neighborhood Association, also stated the importance of preserving the subject structures. Hiller stated that according to the Rome HPC Ordinance the commissioners would make a final recommendation on this case at the next regularly scheduled HPC meeting. Banks stated her concern with the future of the subject properties. Mr. Holt again stated his concerns for the legal aspect of historic district islands. Chaffin stated his concerns with the legality of the case. Freeman stated that the subject building types are well represented within the whole of Avenue A, and that it is time for a change. Wade reviewed the historic district alteration process, the subject properties, and economic situation of the case. Byington requested information on the legality of the case. Hiller read the section of the ordinance regarding historic district islands. Wise stated that as it stands he would be voting in favor of the removal of these properties from the historic district. Wade asked if Trinity United Methodist Church would consider adding their other property to a historic district. Wise stated again that the final recommendation to the city commission regarding this case would take place at the next regularly scheduled HPC meeting.

Staff introduced the draft ordinance amendments for a vote at the next regularly scheduled HPC meeting.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:20 pm.