

ROME HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, July 20, 2016

Carnegie Building, 607 Broad Street

ATTENDANCE

Members Present:

Sam Freeman
Harry Wise
Luke Chaffin
Audrey Burton
Roger Wade

Staff:

Patrick Eidson
James Martin
Frank Beacham
Ann Arnold
Bryan King
Bella Hilbert

Others:

Jim Flourney
June Tarpley
Sam Evans
Linda Tolbert
Dwight Tolbert
Nena Dake
Lamar Allen
Rick Buice
Jimmy Madden
Thom Holt
Cynthia Latimer
Harold Keeler
Brook Temple
Wayne Robinson
Ira Levy
Robert Noble
Craig McDaniel
Josh Tullis
Ann Pullen

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 # 669-16

The applicant proposed construction of sidewalks and staircases, a handicap ramp, remove existing railing and replace with new black painted steel railing, pave additional parking spaces, and lighting to side of building facing West First Street. The Applicant, Mr. Tullis spoke in favor of the project. Tullis stated that the current railing would be taken down and replaced with railing that matched the design of the railing on the back of the 111 Broad St. Building. Although the height of the proposed railing was stated in the application, Building Inspector Martin stated that the railing would have to be 42" in height. Tullis stated that the loading dock would be raised 3" with the matching concrete. Chaffin made a motion to approve as submitted. Freeman seconded the motion, and the motion carried 5-0.

Case #670-16

The applicant proposed to construct a four-story brick building with shops and parking on the first floor, parking on the second floor, apartments on the third and fourth floor; and a penthouse and elevator housing on the roof. The applicant, Ira Levy spoke in favor of the application. Levy stated that if the application was not approved as submitted, he would pursue legal action. Ms. Burton stated that the composition of the new garage level opens should be slightly altered to better match the other facade elements. Martin stated that 40% of the garage level opening had to be open, and he didn't know if they could be altered. Mr. Noble spoke in favor of the project. Wade made a motion to approve with condition that a detailed roof plan be submitted, and those previous motions regarding balcony doors and individual awnings stand. Freeman seconded the motion, and the motion carried 3-2 with Burton and Chaffin in opposition.

3. Reports from Committees

King stated there were none.

4. Reports from Historic Preservation Staff

King stated there were none.

5. Approval of Minutes

Wade made a motion to approve as submitted. Chaffin seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

6. Other Business

Case # 668-16

A spokesperson for the applicants, Mr. Sam Evans spoke in favor of the alteration. Evans stated that Trinity Church bought the properties solely for the future construction of their sanctuary. They never had the intention of remodeling or renting the homes; however, now that they have purchased more property by the original sanctuary they have no need for the Avenue A properties and would like to be able to sell them. King stated that the Georgia Historic Preservation Division and Staff recommended retention of the properties in the Historic District. Ms. Ann Pullen spoke on behalf of the Downtown Development Design Committee in opposition to the request stating that the city wants to develop along 5th Avenue which would make it economically viable and that a remedy exists which would be to demolish the existing structures and, with proper approvals, have structures that would be appropriate for the area. Ms. Nena Dake and Lamar Allen also spoke in opposition. Wade made a motion to vote to recommend the removal, and Wise seconded the motion. With Freeman recused, the vote reached 2-2 with Burton and Chaffin in opposition.

Case #671-16

Applicant, Brook Temple spoke on behalf of the applicants and stated that the property had been purchased before it was put into the historic district. He also stated that the existing structure was built in 1990 and the adjoining properties are all vacant lots; therefore it merits no historical value. King made staff comments. Mr. Wayne Robinson spoke in favor of the alteration. Mr. Tom Holt spoke in favor of the alteration. Chair Wise stated that the HPC would hold another public hearing and would make their recommendation to the City Commission at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Staff read the proposed ordinance amendments to the commissioners, and a discussion followed. Freeman made a motion to approve. Chaffin seconded the motion, and the motion carried 4-1 with Wade in opposition.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:35 pm.