

MINUTES

Landmark Preservation Commission Regular Session

Public Meeting Council Briefing Room

Thursday, May 13, 2021 6:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present

Absent

Staff

Kristina Rumans, Chair Barbara Reber, Vice-Chair

Shirley Patterson

Lisa Allen

O.K. Carter

Suzanne Sweek

Jason Sullivan

Rodrick Penson

Geoff Scheid

Sarah Stubblefield Cindy Harding

- I. Call to Order Chair Rumans called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Announcements

None

IV. Approval of Minutes – April 8, 2021

Commissioner Carter moved to approve the April 8, 2021, minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Sweek, the minutes were approved unanimously.

V. Approval of Minutes – April 22, 2021

Vice-Chair Reber moved to approve the April 22, 2021, minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Allen, the minutes were approved unanimously.

VI. Demolition Permit Applications

1. 2015 E. Abram Street

Ms. Stubblefield gave a presentation regarding the apartment complex built in 1964 near General Motors and located in the Entertainment District Overlay (EDO). It was noted that the 70-unit complex had been used as low-income housing but was unsafe due to fire damages in 2011 and had no historic significance. The current zoning is Entertainment District Overlay Residential Single Family 7.2 (EDO-RS7.2) but the most recent use has been Multi-Family Residential, and the current owner is General Motors LLC. Commissioner Patterson had visited the site and reported that the building is boarded up with no chance of being rehabilitated due to lead paint and asbestos in the original construction. There are several large trees which could be saved

during demolition and the intent was to use the property as a berm to buffer sound from the GM Plant.

Vice-Chair Reber moved to approve the release of the historic stay on the property located at 2015 E. Abram Street. Seconded by Commissioner Carter, the motion was approved unanimously.

VII. Presentation: City of Arlington Tree Preservation Mitigation

Richard Gertson, Assistant Director of Planning and Development Services gave a presentation on Tree Preservation and Mitigation, part of the 2020 Amendments to the Unified Development Code for the City of Arlington. The plan was updated with input from the community as well as developers, the Parks and Recreation Department, City Council, and neighboring cities taking 11 months to complete. Three focus areas were recognized: 1) the historic Cross Timbers Forest Region, 2) preservation vs. mitigation, and 3) improving the Ordinance with amendments. More than half of the City is covered by the eastern branch of the Cross Timbers Ecoregion which recognizes the Texas Oak, Post Oak, and Blackjack as protected trees. Oak tree preservation or replacement will now be incentivized in all Non-Residential, Multi-Family, and Mixed-Use Development with all trees over 18 inches in caliper being inventoried, down from 30 inches in the previous standards. Trees in Single-Family Residential development must be sampled and require mitigation of trees which are three to five caliper inches. Existing trees on residential lots less than one-acre cannot be mandated by the City, although many neighborhoods can regulate the trees in their private associations. Single-Family residential lots greater than one acre shall inventory protected trees at least ten inches or larger and either preserve or mitigate accordingly. Agricultural properties must preserve a minimum of 35 percent of the existing total protected trees. Ms. Stubblefield noted that markers could be used to recognize historic trees.

VIII. Work Plan Items

1. Discussion: THC Training Grant Updates

Ms. Stubblefield reminded the Commission of the CAMP Training on June 4th and 5th, 2021 from 9:00 am to 12:45 pm at the downtown Library or the training could be done virtually.

2. Discussion: Online Interactive Historical Maps Update

Ms. Stubblefield noted small changes to the map on the LPC webpage. A video and a map of the local landmarks will be launched online on May 26, 2021.

3. Discussion: Historic Preservation Month Events

The WWII Memorial project began in 2012 and was dedicated on May 8, 2021, in the plaza north of City Hall. A proclamation regarding Historic Preservation Month would be presented to City Council on May 18, 2021 at 6:30 pm. The 90th Anniversary Celebration of the Arlington Steakhouse building on W. Division Street would be held on May 20, 2021, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm in conjunction with the 5th Anniversary of Jambo's, the current occupant of the building. Top O'Hill Terrace would also hold a celebration in the month of May.

IX. Historic Preservation Officer Report

Ms. Stubblefield had submitted a State Historical Marker application for the Downtown Train Platform to the Tarrant County Historical Commission (TCHC) who approved the application and forwarded it to the State for their consideration.

The May 18, 2021 City Council Agenda has four historic local markers for consideration.

Please take as many training sessions as possible. The National Alliance of Preservation Commissions (NAPC) Training is very thorough and educational.

X. Public Forum

None

XI. Future Agenda Items – June 10, 2021

Presentation from Mr. Cisneros regarding maps.

XII. Adjourn

Chair Rumans adjourned the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

Kristina Rumans, Chair

ATTEST:

Secretary to the Commission APPROVED this 10th day of June 2021