



MINUTES

**Landmark Preservation Commission
Regular Session**

**Public Meeting
Council Briefing Room**

**Thursday, July 14, 2022
6:00 p.m.**

Commissioners Present

Kristina Rumans, Chair
Geraldine Mills
Cheryl Donaldson
O.K. Carter
Jason Sullivan
Shirley Patterson
Rodrick Penson

Absent

Barbara Reber, Vice-Chair

Staff

Sarah Stubblefield
Anthony Cisneros
Cindy Harding
Doug Stewart

I. Call to Order – Chair Rumans called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Announcements

Ms. Stubblefield announced that Commissioner Baker had resigned his position and a new Commissioner would be appointed after the City Council resumed bi-monthly meetings in August. Vice-Chair Reber's term had expired; however, she would continue to serve until a new member was appointed to take her place.

IV. Approval of Minutes – June 9, 2022

Commissioner Donaldson moved to approve the June 9, 2022, minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Mills, the minutes were approved unanimously.

V. Dangerous and Substandard Structures

1. 1207 Highland Drive

Code Officer Stuart gave a presentation on the home built in 1955 on the corner of Highland Drive and E. Park Row Drive. The home was badly fire damaged in February of 2022 while vacant. The property is owned by a Limited Liability Corporation (LLC), but no rehabilitation efforts have taken place. The structure was left with holes burned through the roof and serious interior damages. The city has mowed the property multiple times and Code Enforcement has a tentative hearing scheduled for August.

Commissioner Mills moved to approve the release of 1207 Highland Drive back to the city. Seconded by Commissioner Penson, the motion was approved unanimously.

2. 212 Arnold Avenue

Code Officer Stewart gave a presentation on the home built in 1924. This home was also badly damaged in an electrical fire in March of 2022, leaving broken windows and holes in the roof as well as exterior walls. Since the fire occurred, the owner moved out and has been non-responsive in regard to securing or rehabbing the home, so the case will need to move forward without the owner's involvement.

Commissioner Patterson moved to approve the release of 212 Arnold Avenue back to the city. Seconded by Commissioner Sullivan, the motion was approved unanimously.

VI. Demolition Permit Applications

3. 908 Marcellus Court

Mr. Cisneros gave a presentation on the home built in the 1955, but not listed as being historically significant. The property is currently zoned Residential Medium Density (RM-12) and located in the Entertainment District Overlay (EDO). Commissioner Donaldson had visited the site and spoke to a representative of the construction company who was already on site and proceeding with the demolition preparation without a complete permit. The work was stopped until further notice. If approved, the owner plans to build a new residence at that location.

Commissioner Mills moved to approve the release of 908 Marcellus Court to the city. Seconded by Commissioner Carter, the motion was approved unanimously.

4. 2415 Gilbert Circle

Mr. Cisneros gave a presentation on the home built in 1958 with no historic significance. The property is currently zoned Residential Single-Family 7.2. It was noted that the concrete driveway was recently enlarged and that the home appeared to be in good shape from the outside.

Commissioner Carter moved to approve the release of 2415 Gilbert Circle to the city. Seconded by Commissioner Penson, the motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 2.

Ayes: Carter, Donaldson, Penson, Rumans, & Sullivan

Nays: Mills & Patterson

VII. Why I Serve Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Patterson stated that she is very interested in history and enjoys learning about landmarks and how to protect them. She moved to Arlington with her husband and children in 1965, settling in the 1950's Parkview Neighborhood and planning to move to a larger home after one year. She grew to love the area and still resides there today.

Commissioner Donaldson stated that she came to Arlington 23 years ago after living in an apartment building in Chicago as a young child and moving to rural Arkansas in the third grade. She then grew up in the very small town of Lake View (previously named Turkey Scratch) which had no stop lights, no Post Office, no Police Department, or any emergency services. All three places are extremely different from each other, and she believes that history and preservation are very important in the smallest town or largest city. She currently works in the Architecture Department at UTA, previously serving four years on the Landmark Preservation Commission, including one term as Vice-Chair, and returning to the Commission in 2021.

VIII. Work Plan Items

1. Local Landmarks: Arlington Cemetery Markers Update

Mr. Cisneros is working with the IT Department and the Public Works Department on implementation of the QR codes which will identify certain areas of the cemetery using articles written by Commissioner Carter and resources from Fielder House as well as the library. KERA presented a story providing exposure about the project in June.

2. Local landmarks: Birds Fort Update

Commissioner Mills recently met with Brian Burns from the Friends of Birds Fort, but they have not yet been in contact with the Viridian development. The original marker has been located and is being repaired.

3. Other Local Marker Program Items

None

4. Education Forum Series Presentation

Commissioner Carter suggested videos be created on local Arlington history beginning with the incorporation of the city to the 1950's and the 1950's to the present. The videos could be recorded at the library or scripts could be read in front of a green screen with photos and editing added later. He stated that it would be a big project; however, it needed to be done.

IX. Local Landmark Research & Application Process Workshop

Ms. Stubblefield presented the final portion of the application process which is the Description of Significance. This includes a brief explanation of the historic and architectural significance regarding the place to be marked. The applicant would list other individuals or groups in support of the marker applications as well as future plans for the site, if any, and who would be in charge of the long-term maintenance of the marker. Ms. Stubblefield noted websites and resources to utilize in researching properties and reminded the Commissioners to be sure that the current owners were made aware of the process.

X. Historic Preservation Officer Report

None

XI. Public Forum

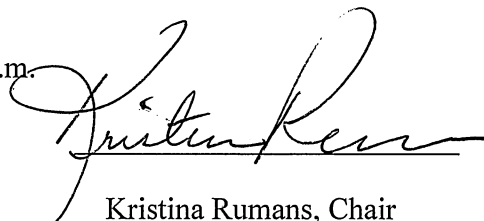
None

XII. Future Agenda Items – August 11, 2022

Arlington Cemetery Markers
Bird's Fort
Education Forum Series Presentation
Historic Trees Presentation

XIII. Adjourn

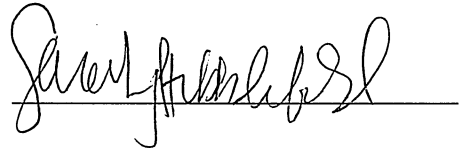
Chair Rumans adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.



Kristina Rumans, Chair

ATTEST:

Secretary to the Commission
APPROVED this 11th day of August 2022

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sarah H. Smith", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and stylized.