

HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMISSION

Tuesday, April 14, 2015

The Historic Resources Commission held a called meeting on Tuesday April 14, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Graham Municipal Building. Commission Members present were Helen Sharpe, Brenda Sykes, Grace Baldwin, Cary Worthy, Lauren Nance, and Denise Baker. Member absent was Larry Brooks. Staff members present were Nathan Page, Interim City Planner, Michael Leinwand, Special Projects Coordinator and Martha Johnson, Zoning/Inspections Technician.

Vice Chair Cary Worthy called the meeting to order and explained the function of the Commission.

1. Approve minutes of the January 14, 2015 meeting. Helen Sharpe made a motion for approval, second by Grace Baldwin. All voted aye.
2. Discuss North Main Street Historic District Resident's Meeting
Meeting was held for Tuesday, January 27th at 7pm at Providence Church fellowship hall

Nathan Page gave an overview explaining the steps involved with the potential designation of the North Main Street area as a Local Historic District. Mr. Page also discussed some of the results and comments from some of the residents from the January 27th meeting.

Cary Worthy asked for comments from the Commission members. Some of the responses were: it was a good informational meeting, possibly another meeting needs to be scheduled, more education to the residents and the Commission members also, possible phone calls, maybe a packet with information sent out and maybe even a door to door project to physically put these packets in their hands. The Commission said they need to do everything to get more participants. Mr. Page also said they could maybe invite the community to help write what the restrictions would be.

Mr. Guy Sinclair of 507 N Main Street asked if he could speak. Mr. Sinclair asked what the duties of the Commission were. Mr. Worthy did a brief overview for him. Mr. Sinclair stated he didn't want to be told what he can do or not do with his property. Mr. Sinclair asked if he as a homeowner could opt out, and Mr. Worthy said no. Mr. Sinclair said he would like to know the penalty if he didn't go along with the restrictions and Mr. Worthy explained that the Commission hasn't set anything up yet.

Barbara Sinclair of 507 N Main Street spoke next. Ms. Sinclair asked the Commission if anyone has had any discussion with the folks in Burlington from the Fountain Place area about when they went through this procedure and heard their pros and cons for their district. She requested the Commission to do so if they haven't because it might be enlightening to everyone.

Cary Worthy said as a Board, we need to decide if we are going forward making the National Historic District boundary a Local Historic District and have regulations on those houses in that area under our jurisdiction. Do we want to move forward looking at that, not stating that we are going to do that but we are just looking at that proposal. Helen Sharpe made a motion to move forward, second by Grace Baldwin. All voted aye. Mr. Worthy said the Commission will move forward on looking at the Historic District, and we will first get educational papers together to get out to the folks in that area to try to answer some of their questions. Then, next setup another public meeting for discussion with the people in the National Historic District. It was the consensus of the Commission to listen to the folks like Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair, to see if this is something they really want or possibly need. The Commission should not be doing this just to be doing it.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Martha Johnson