

## HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMISSION

### Wednesday, October 22, 2014

The Historic Resources Commission held a called meeting on Wednesday October 22, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Graham Municipal Building. Commission Members present were Grace Baldwin, Helen Sharpe, Brenda Sykes, and Cary Worthy. Larry Brooks, Lauren Nance, and Denise Baker were absent. Staff members present were Melissa Guilbeau, City Planner, Martha Johnson, Zoning/Inspections Technician, and Nathan Page, Intern.

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

1. A motion was made to approve the minutes from the September 24, 2014 meeting by Helen Sharpe and seconded by Grace Baldwin. The motion carried unanimously.

2. STB Illuminated Sign (COA1407). Request by Sarah Evans for a Certificate of Appropriateness to erect an internally illuminated wall sign at 123 N Main St. Sara Evans, owner of STB Records, stated this was an existing sign that had plywood on it which they removed and put up the fixture you see on the sign. Ms. Evans showed the Commission pictures of the sign at their store at Four Seasons Mall. She said her sign here would not be blinding, not hazardous to passing cars, no flashing just a glow. Cary Worthy asked if this was allowed and Ms. Guilbeau said these are allowed in B-1 areas but this is in the Historic District. Mr. Worthy said that Skids and Barristers both have back lit signs. Helen Sharpe made a motion to approve the back lit sign, seconded by Grace Baldwin. The vote was 4 to 0 in favor.

3. Discuss options for N Main St district. Ms. Guilbeau stated the Commission had discussed extending the boundaries of the North Main Street National Register District north to Providence Church and south to the Court Square. Ms. Guilbeau said she had discussed this with the State Historic Preservation Office to get her opinion. The officer had concerns that it would be difficult to include these two areas in the proposed district because there are modern buildings and vacant lots there along with a lot of houses that have been altered. Ms. Guilbeau said if the Commission wanted to continue to pursue expanding the district, the City of Graham would need to get a consultant to prepare the description and significance of the two new areas. Also, the Providence Church could be designated as a local landmark.

It was agreed that Ms. Guilbeau would consult with the State for a ballpark figure for a consultant and would talk to Frankie Maness, City Manager, about possible funds for this project. It was the consensus of the Commission to go with the boundaries of the national register district and look to expand it later. The Commission would like to start the paperwork to designate the Providence Church as a Historic Landmark. Ms. Guilbeau told them a report would be done on its significance. The Commission decided to see if Darryl Pebbles could prepare the report. The Commission also suggested having an informal public workshop, perhaps in late January, with the residents in the area. It was suggested to meet at the Providence Church.

4. Discuss draft Historic Resources Handbook. Various comments were made by the Commission stating it was in a good format, interesting, colorful, and easy to read. Ms. Guilbeau told the Commission to take a month or so to go through the handbook and make any specific comments and she will fine tune Appendix B.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Martha Johnson