Historic Preservation Meeting Minutes
April 1, 2021 3:30 PM

PRESENT: Chris Marone, Chair
Sean Hurley, Vice Chair
Bill Loughery, Member
Holly Young, Member

EXCUSED: Tia Hockensmith, Member

STAFF PRESENT: Lynn Rosetti, Senior Planner
Ginny Bodkin, Deputy City Clerk
Brandon Berry, Planner II

Chair Marone called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM.

1. **Changes to the Agenda –** Ms. Rosetti provided the members with a list of four additional discussion items - 5d. St. Pete Beach Public Library, e. Community Rating System (CRS) Five Year Cycle Preliminary Ratings, f. FEMA Flood Zone Map and Height Changes, and g. Board Roles and Responsibilities in Application Reviews. Member Young asked to add a discussion item for the Beach Theater.

2. **Audience Comments** – There were no audience comments.

3. **Approval of Minutes -** Historic Preservation Board 3/04/2021 Minutes

Vice Chair Hurley moved, and Member Young seconded the approval of the March 4, 2021 minutes as presented; the motion carried unanimously.

4. **Action Items**

   a. **COA and FEMA Variance – 21009 and 21010 – 504 Pass-a-Grille Way Item CONTINUED to a later date**

Chair Marone moved and Member Loughery seconded to continue the COA and FEMA Variance for Cases 21009 and 21010, 504 Pass-a-Grille Way from today until May 6, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

5. **Discussion Items**

   a. **Status of Historic District Street Signs -** Senior Planner, Lynn Rosetti updated the members that the City Commission addressed this matter on March 23rd and will again at their Budget Workshop on April 29th. $188,000 is budgeted for neighborhood beautification overall.

   b. **Merry Pier Historic Marker -** Ms. Rosetti showed the location of where the marker will be installed sometime in the month of April, depending on whether the City or an outside vendor does the work. The marker will be structurally secure. Should the marker need to be temporarily removed during the sidewalk and seawall repairs, it will be reinstalled thereafter.

   c. **Status of Historic Grant Application -** Ms. Rosetti explained that Covid, legislative issues and state budget issues have slowed the process. The amount in the budget for

grants is a continuing line item and per her phone call to State offices today, the funds are in the budget. The Legislation session ends in May then goes to the Governor before we will know the status; she will provide updates.

d. St. Pete Beach Public Library - The remodeled Library is now open; Ms. Rosetti invited the members to the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on April 26th and reviewed a photo presentation of the renovations.

e. Community Rating System (CRS) Five-Year-Cycle Preliminary Rating Visit – Ms. Rosetti reported that preliminarily, the City has maintained its rating of 6 in this voluntary incentive program, which translates to a 20% flood insurance discount.

f. FEMA Flood Zone Map and Height Changes – Brandon Berry, Planner II, summarized previous meeting discussions on new, lower flood zones and reviewed the current Land Development Code (LDC) definition of *height*. Due to new mapping, many properties are losing two to three feet in buildable height. He showed proposed verbiage to add to the *height* definition in the LDC, which would say that "Residential properties located outside of the Community Redevelopment District may begin this measurement at eight feet above grade if this distance exceeds Design Flood Elevation." This is already in the LDC in other sections. Mr. Berry continued to review plans of some local properties to illustrate how the new mapping and potential LDC changes could affect height. Some Q&A followed and it was suggested that, since grade is an arbitrary number, it be specified 'eight feet above grade, as long as it does not exceed *'x amount'* of feet over sea level", because there are too many ways to alter grade by 12 inches which can change the playing field. That should be a caveat. Discussion followed on height restrictions, grade, rooftop additions, grade and limiting scale.

g. Board Roles and Responsibilities in Application Reviews - Mr. Berry reviewed a document detailing the most frequent types of applications that come before this Board, what the Board's role is (none, advisory, quasi-regulatory, or regulatory) in those applications and what actions they may take respectively.

h. Beach Theater Update - Member Young reported that she spoke with Assistant City Attorney Matthew McConnell for an update. There have been code violations at the property, but it has been embroiled in probate court since 2013. The France family's attorney has withdrawn from the case, so additional time will be needed for the new attorney to get up to date. Basically, there is nothing to update until this moves forward.

Following that item, Member Loughery requested an update next month on the concession stand/press box at Hurley Park. It is currently being used in some capacity during little league games. Does money need to be raised to refurbish the building/are there grant funds available/was the press box not part of the recent overall Hurley Park update? Ms. Rosetti will gather information to present next month.

i. Next Meeting/Adjournment - The next meeting is May 6, 2021.

Chair Marone adjourned the meeting at 4:38 PM.

These minutes were approved at the May 6, 2021 Historic Preservation Board meeting.