

HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD MINUTES

November 3, 2022 - 3:30 PM

PRESENT: Chris Marone, Chair
Tia Hockensmith, Member
Bill Loughery, Member
Holly Young, Member

EXCUSED: Sean Hurley, Vice Chair

STAFF PRESENT: Jennifer McMahon, Chief Operating Officer; Lynn Rosetti, Contract Planner;
Matthew McConnell, Assistant City Attorney (telephonic); Ginny Bodkin,
Deputy City Clerk; Public Works Director Mike Clarke

Chair Marone called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM. Three members were present; the fourth member would be delayed. The Chair called to defer action items until her arrival. Discussion Item 5a. was presented first.

Member Young entered the meeting at 3:39 PM; the Deputy Clerk announced the quorum.

- 1. Approval of the Agenda** – There were no changes.

Chair Marone moved and Member Hockensmith seconded the approval of the agenda as presented; the motion carried unanimously.

- 2. Audience Comments** – There were no general comments.

- 3. Approval of Minutes** - Historic Preservation Board regular meeting minutes 10/6/2022

Member Loughery moved and Member Hockensmith seconded the approval of the October 6, 2022 regular meeting minutes; the motion carried unanimously.

- 4. Action Items -**

- a. Approval of Meeting Dates for 2023**

Ms. McMahon explained that the 2004 Resolution which defined the Board's rules of procedure had a meeting starting time of 2:30, but the Board may set when they would like it. The Board discussed.

Member Loughery moved and Member Hockensmith seconded the approval of the Historic Preservation Board meeting dates for 2023 with a starting time of 2:30 PM; the motion carried unanimously.

- b. Certificate of Appropriateness for No. Case 22058: 106 18th Avenue**

Contract Planner Lynn Rosetti gave a presentation on the application. The owner had intended to refurbish the home, but inspections revealed that there was significant damage including trusses and rafters. Her presentation included a zoning map, photographs, home inspector comments, plans and staff findings; the presentation is part of the meeting record.

She explained the Land Development Code Section 28.11 regarding demolition permits. The Board

may not deny the application but may impose a 30 or 90 day stay to inform the applicant about possible incentives for preservation or explore possible alternatives to demolition. Reconstruction would not be eligible for a FEMA Variance. Staff recommendation was for approval of the demolition, as it is a deteriorating contributing structure.

Applicant Dennis Johnson, of Tampa, appeared to provide additional information and explained this would be his long-term permanent home; he has developed many other historic homes. He cannot obtain insurance yet due to its condition. Board members asked questions.

Chair Marone moved and Member Young seconded to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for Case 22058 to demolish the contributing residential structure at 106 18th Avenue with any moratorium; the motion carried unanimously.

Chuck Bishop of 103 18th Avenue gave public comment that absentee owners should be made to keep their houses in code; this is a loss to the historic district.

5. Discussion Items -

a. Paving of Roads in Pass-a-Grille

Public Works Director Mike Clarke presented information to the Board regarding a project which is being considered to install a colorized asphalt product on Gulf Way in Pass-a-Grille to reduce the sun's heat signature for pedestrians and adjacent properties. US Department of Energy studies show that the product reduces heat reflectivity from near 138 degrees into the 80's. He provided color samples. He also presented information on the proposed installation of medians on Gulf Way. His presentation is part of the meeting record.

Discussion ensued on large restaurant delivery trucks that use Gulf Way and the potential for interference, motorists backing into medians, and encouraging street crossings street outside of the crosswalks. The paving program budget was approved this year at \$1 million over the course of two years. As the project would be completed by February, the timelines will be tight to have this Board's final input. Mr. Clarke will return with more specific information to present based on the discussion.

Discussion followed on whether there was any interest in extending 8th Avenue shore to shore using crosswalks; some parking spaces would be lost. Mr. Clarke will work with the Parking Director and bring back more specifics to present.

Amy Loughery of 102 19th Avenue expressed concern that the colors might clash with the historic nature of Pass-a-Grille; Mr. Clarke presented colors that might be appropriate.

b. City Commission Direction on Role of Historic Preservation Board

Assistant City Attorney McConnell appeared telephonically; he suggested that the members watch the last Commission meeting in which this was discussed. The commissioners would like more than bullet points on a list and wanted more context. He explained that the Commissioners felt that they would prefer to send items that they choose to this Board for recommendations, and finally suggested that each Board member reach out to their Commissioner to discuss individually.

Chair Marone indicated he would be happy to make a presentation before the Commission to clarify some of this Board's requests and have a dialogue. In discussion with the City Attorney and staff, it was determined to add that item to the Dec. 6th Commission agenda; he will bring his finalized presentation to the December 1st meeting.

The Board discussed potential procedures on how communications and recommendations to the Commission should look going forward - how to have their recommendations on the agenda for discussion; how much notice is required. A member being present at the meetings may be a good idea. Mr. McConnell suggested all members call their respective commissioners and provide their perspective.

c. Pass-a-Grille Park Discussion

Ms. McMahon explained that some Pass-a-Grille residents have walked the park with the architect for the project to provide their observations and history; the preliminary designs for the park renovation were shown at the last Town Hall meeting. The plans are being brought here today for input and will also go before the Parks and Recreation Committee. She introduced Landscape Architect Martin Steffen of Halff Associates; his plans and photos are part of the meeting record.

Mr. Steffen began a review of the plans shown at the Town Hall meeting. Board questions and answers ensued. Member Loughery asked about the genesis of reconstructing the entire park and expressed concerns about removing any large number of mature trees and losing shade. Ms. McMahon indicated that the project came to this Board at the April 7th meeting and was discussed at length.

Chair Marone attended the walking tour of the park and indicated what trees should be kept or removed. Invasive or not safe trees could be removed. Member Loughery indicated that the park is there for green space, not necessarily public use; he enumerated to Mr. Steffen which trees he thought should stay including any oaks and any placed in memorial. Member Young provided her opinions as well; shade and natural materials were a priority. Ms. McMahon recorded notes to pass forward.

Attorney McConnell obtained a consensus from the Board, for clarity, that no one was in favor of adding a pavilion, that no trees should be removed unless they were problematic, and that trees could be added in less dense areas. Mr. Steffen will bring back updated plans.

Chair Marone left the meeting at 5:39PM and Member Loughery was appointed Chair by consensus. A brief discussion of park benches ensued.

Following the close of Board discussion, resident Amy Loughery gave public comment regarding the sticky notes that the public had submitted at the Town Hall; Ms. McMahon indicated that public comments and emails are still being compiled.

6. Next Meeting/Adjournment – The next meeting will be held December 1, 2022.

Chair adjourned at the meeting at 5:45 PM.

These minutes were approved the January 5, 2023 Historic Preservation Board meeting.