

Athens City Historic and Architecture Preservation Commission
MINUTES
October 10, 2022

1. Call to Order Chairperson Mary Ann Reeves called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Members present include: Mary Ann Reeves, Cyrus Moore, Mark Snyder, Richard Vedder, John Valentour, and Tim Anderson (new member). Quorum was established.

Non-commission members present include Steve Patterson (mayor), Andrew Chicki (Deputy Service Director), David Riggs (code enforcement) and Megan (Ohio University student).

Disability Commission members present David McNelly, Diane Bouvier, Carolyn Lewis.

2. Disposition of Minutes Richard Vedder made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted Tim Anderson seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

3. Next Meeting November 14, 2022 at 5:30PM

5. New Business

A. The feasibility of the Historic Preservation Commission recommending to City Council amending the June 4, 1990 Resolution R-4-90, concerning preservation of brick streets. The Disability Commission indicated crossing the streets is a problem for people with disabilities due to the uneven surfaces. It was suggested to make crosswalks of stamped concrete, which will provide a more even surface, although not completely ADA complainant. City Officials indicated transitions to the curbs would be problematic since drainage patterns need maintained. Cyrus noted the stamped concrete should match the brick color and design. David McNelly will draft a joint letter to City Council from both the Disabilities Commission and the Historic Preservation expressing our approval of the amendment.

Steve Patterson indicated the work would be included in the city budget. A scope of work and priority schedule should be generated.

B. We briefly discussed with David Riggs the creation of a Certificate of Appropriateness document. We have a number of completed projects and projects in progress.

C. The new owners or 63 South Court Street, formally Follett's Book Store, has asked we review a proposed replacement window. The Commission agreed to review the submission provided by the code office. We expressed our desire to have more complete submissions rather than multiple segments of projects presented to the commission. The material submitted is a metal clad wood window system specifically designed for renovation projects.

6. Old Business

A. The status of the plaque for the Presbyterian Church was questioned. This needs to be investigated by someone at City Hall. Mayor Patterson expressed his intent to help the commission implement the Joann Presley Award. The Historical Review Commission recognizes property owners who make historically significant improvements.

B. 74 North Court Street Owner's have resubmitted to the city for building permits. We need to further review exterior detailing. We have approved portions of the project, hardie-plank siding and the metal railing/balcony system.

C. Haning Hall and Lasher Hall were again discussed. Ohio University intends to decommission the structures and has offered them to the City of Athens. Mary Ann will investigate the historic status of the buildings with State and Federal agencies. Both structures are well preserved historic buildings.

With all agenda items satisfied and no additional business or announcements, Cryus motioned to adjourn the meeting. Richard seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted by John Valentour