



AGENDA
ATHENS HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2024 AT 5:30 PM

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Establish Quorum**
- 3. Disposition of Minutes**
 - December 11, 2023
- 4. Old Business**
- 5. New Business**
- 6. Announcements & Other Business:**
 - Next meeting: April 8, 2024
- 7. Adjournment**

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Athens City Historic and Architectural Preservation Commission
MINUTES
December 11, 2023

1.Call to Order Chairperson Mary Anne Reeves called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM. Members present include Mark Snider, Richard Vedder, Tim Anderson, Bill Walker, and John Valentour. Quorum established. Present: Andrew Chiki, DSD

2.Disposition of Minutes August minutes were reviewed motion to approve by Richard, second Tim, all approve.

3.Next Meeting January 8, 2023, at 5:30 PM

4.New Business

A. A review of our by-laws was lead by Andrew. The bi-laws are title 45 of the Athens City Code. Section 45.03 Board Membership has been modified where terms are described according the number of years. The modified version indicates 4 year terms. All Approve.

B. Title 45 Historic and Architectural Preservation.

Items the commission should consider:

Section 45.05 Develop historic design guidelines. We currently we use The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. With assistance from the City of Athens eventually guidelines specific for Athens could be developed.

Section 45.10 indicates the commission shall maintain a survey and inventory of cultural resources. This would be reflected in the meeting minutes and documents submitted. This information is available for review at the city website.

Section 45.12 Designation procedures for historic districts or landmarks. This section permits the commission to nominate properties, districts, or sites as a local historic site, separate from a State or Federal designation. Athens has a local historic district approved by council. The commission has previously approved various properties outside the historic district as local landmarks. The commission can review properties outside the historic district and determine if designation as local landmark is appropriate. Commission members were asked to generate ideas for review:

Approved by the commission:

*Stewart -MacDonald Building, West Washington Street (Landmark)

*Seaman's Grocery Store, West Union Street (Landmark)

Potential Landmarks:

Mount Zion Baptist Church, West Carpenter Street

Athens Middle School, West State Street

Christ Lutheran Church, Mill Street

Hanning Hall, West Union Street

Lasher Hall, West Union Street

Section 54.12 Note C indicates the board should consider the criteria provided in Section 45.10 when recommending action for historic designation. The reference should be to section 45.11.

C. Andrew indicated the City Hall clock and bell (1874) are to be restored. The clock and bell will become functional.

5.Old Business

A. The Presbyterian Church plaque is being reviewed. The proposed amount of information on the plaque was questioned, 900 + words. This will be modified. Andrew will reference a website on the plaque where additional information about the Church may be obtained.

B. Our brochure update needs attention. We discussed procedures and relations with city offices on development projects. Bill Walker will review information available and recommend modifications. The goal is to provide a clear path for projects needing commission review.

C. Applications are being reviewed for a new City Planner. Andrew indicated the process is well under way.

D. The commission recognized the hard work Andrew C. has been doing for us.
Thank you very much!

6.Adjournment Richard motioned to adjourn, second by Mark second, all approve 6:35 PM

Respectfully submitted
John Valentour