

Historic Preservation Commission
July 14, 2025
City Hall, Edward & Martha Berry Conference Room

Attendance:

Members – Mark Snider, Meghan Jennings, Cyrus Moore, John Valentour, and Tim Anderson

Guests – Richard Shultz as architect for Certificate of Appropriateness application (via Microsoft Teams);
Cory Corrigan with the OUCU; Tim Martin from Ohio is Home; and Mike Ward

Absent – Mary Anne Reeves, Bill Walker, Richard Vedder

Agenda

1. **Call to Order** – John Valentour, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.
2. **Disposition of Minutes** from the June 9 meeting.
 - Cyrus motioned to approve the June minutes.
 - Tim seconded.
 - All in favor. None opposed. Motion passed.
3. **Old Business**
 - Certificate of Appropriateness – 43 & 45 S. Court Street
 - Mark left the room due to a conflict of interest; he informed the Commission of his conflict of interest before the project.
 - John shared that he met with Richard S. within the past month to review the objectives and previous approvals from the Historic Preservation Commission for context of review and potential approval of this application.
 - John reviewed that the Commission didn't have any issues with the proposal with the design of 43 S. Court Street.
 - Cyrus reflected that 43 S. Court Street is a restoration project.
 - John continued that the bigger issue with the proposed balcony with 45 S. Court Street. He stated that he reviewed the City's municipal code. He stated that he found ACC 23.03.08 Yard Regulations. He talked with Brian at the Code Office who referred to Title 49 Special Use of the right-of-way. John said that he had questions about interpretation of that Title and how it applies to structure.
 - Richard S. stated that he had previously talked with David Riggs in the Code Office and that he will
 - Tim stated that he believes that the Commission's review should focus on the historic appropriateness of the balcony and not the review of code compliance. He understands that there may be concerns about the Commission recommending approval of a structure that isn't code compliance. He suggested that within the Commission's approval they could include language that addresses any potential code compliance issues.
 - Cyrus reported that he found photos of historic balconies on other structures throughout uptown for reference for the Commission and what design and materials may be appropriate for the proposal.
 - Richard S. discussed that they have modified the design of the balconies to 4ft deep and would be painted metal. He stated that the balconies would be similar to the existing balconies over Hot Box Chicken but that they would not include the angled bracket support. He clarified that the proposed balconies would be cantilevered.

- The Commission discussed how the proposed design of the balconies is appropriate as proposed. They discussed how to address the Commission's approval with consideration of Council's future review and approval of the use.
- Richard S. updated the Commission that he applied for a non-structural demolition permit with the Code Office so that they can start working on interior walls and the removal of the exterior siding in order to better assess the existing windows.
- Tim motioned to approve the concept of the balconies in terms of its appearance and construction materials.
 - John seconded.
 - All in favor. None opposed. Motion passed.

4. New Business

- John mentioned that the Commission should consider going back and revisiting old business items, such as the Mansfield House.
- The Commission briefly discussed the potential to designate the Mansfield House as a historic landmark.
- Meghan stated that she would follow up with Mayor Patterson about the funding that was previously available to renovating the Mansfield House.
- John mentioned that he'd like for the Commission to be more proactive in identifying other properties and structures that should have a historic landmark designation. He also mentioned vacant properties that Ohio University currently owns, such as Lasher Hall.
- Meghan mentioned that she would share with the Commission a presentation from the developer about the reutilization of The Ridges which was shared with the Affordable Housing Commission. She stated it could be beneficial to ask the developer to present the project to the Historic Preservation Commission.
- The Commission discussed their individual international travels and observations of how other countries handle ADA issues.

5. Announcements

- John announced that the next scheduled meeting is August 11, 2025.

6. Adjourn

- Cyrus motioned to adjourn at 6:28 p.m.
 - Tim seconded the motion.
- All in favor; none opposed. Motion passed.