

Athens City Historic and Architecture Preservation Commission

Minutes

June 14, 2021 5:30 PM

Zoom Meeting

1. Call to Order—Mary Anne Reeves called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM. Members present include Reeves, Richard Vedder, Cyrus Moore, and John Valentour. Mark Snider, Pam Callahan, and Guy Philips were absent. Guests include Bob Prebe, Bryan Wharton, and Rev Martin.

2. Disposition of Minutes

3. Next Meeting—July 12, 2021 5:30PM

4. New Business

A. 10 E. Union Street— Windows recommendation—Bob Prebe was present to discuss this matter. He stated that the current windows visible from the street are storm windows and are deteriorating and need replaced. The windows behind the storm windows have no glazing, single pane, and are rotting. Owners are concerned about energy efficiency. New will be clay colored to match the existing color palette. The board had a discussion on types of windows and the secretary standards. They reviewed section 45.08 A. of Athens City Code. Cyrus Moore stated that this section of code gives some flexibility in this situation. Richard Vedder agreed with Moore and is appreciative of the work the new owners are doing here. Vedder stated this is a reasonable trade-off for the windows. Reeves thanked Prebe for the work they are doing to preserve this building but believes the windows should be a like replacement with the original. Prebe thinks this is an improvement from the current state of the building. John Valentour motioned to approve the proposed window changes. Vedder seconded the motion. Reeves expressed concern that this will set a precedent for future projects. Vedder, Moore, and Valentour voted in favor. Reeves abstained. The motion was approved.

B. 65-67 S Court façade improvements—Building owner Bryan Wharton discussed his plans with the commission. Building was originally brick. Plans were provided to the commission prior to the meeting. Stucco was added to the building 30 or more years ago. He bought the building a few years ago and wants to improve the look of the building. He was unaware there were preservation review requirements prior to initiating work on this building. Stucco has been removed and they are cleaning up the brick. The glue used for the stucco is being grinded down at Little Professor and south elevation. Plans to replace brick as needed. Doors will be all glass. Windows will have black metal frames. Board members expressed some concerns regarding the proposal and how it relates to the department of the interior standards. Vedder suggested that a member or two of the board visit the site and provide some feedback on the project. Wharton said that is acceptable to him. Valentour offered to meet the owner and architects on site and discuss the building and solutions to get this project up to standards. Logue stated that members cannot meet in quorum and cannot make any decisions expect in a public meeting. They can individually visit the site. Moore commented on the quality of that type of brick and that it might make sense to cover it with better brick or boarding to preserve it. Reeves suggested something besides board batten. The board discussed having a special session in order to review updated plans. Valentour will perform a site visit on June 15 at 3 PM. The board scheduled a special session for Monday June 21, 2021 at 5:30 PM.

5. Old Business

A. Prisley Award—First Presbyterian Church—Rev Martin from First Presbyterian Church was present to discuss this award. Rev Martin said he would like this to promote preservation and the church. He would like to see an in-person event at some time and is flexible about dates. Vedder suggested a press release for this and to consider a Sunday after a service. Rev. Martin said a Sunday or a reception during the week might work to bring others to this. Martin suggested end of August when students are back and before Labor Day. He will follow-up with a date soon.

6. Announcements and Updates—There were no announcements or updates

7. Adjournment—Reeves made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vedder seconded the motion. The motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 6:50PM.

Respectfully submitted by Paul Logue