

NORTH LITTLE ROCK HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

**506 Main Street
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72114
Telephone (501) 371-0755; Fax (501) 371-8360**

**MINUTES
NORTH LITTLE ROCK HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING
September 12, 2019
506 Main Street
North Little Rock, AR
5:30 P.M.**

Commission Members Present:

**Tom Marr
Charlie Hart
Debra Roberts
Ken Davenport
Ross Maestas
Mason Toms**

Commission Members Absent:

Susan Markman

Others Present:

**Sandra Taylor Smith, Director
Cary Bradburn, Historian
George Collins
Kristen Brown
Geraldo Carcamo
Jared Northcutt
Henry Coleman
Mike Marlar
Sally Dorsey
Travis McKenney
Mike Abele
Chris Wilbourn**

Chairman Tom Marr called the North Little Rock Historic District Commission meeting of September 12, 2019 to order at 5:30 P.M. and a quorum was established. Commissioner Susan Markman had an excused absence. Mr. Marr welcomed guests and asked them to introduce themselves.

CORRECTION AND ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Chairman Marr asked if Commissioners had read the minutes of the August 8, 2019 Historic District Commission meeting. Debra Roberts moved to approve the minutes of the August 2019 HDC meeting. Mason Toms seconded the motion and it was approved 6-0 in roll call vote.

Old Business:

A. Install four 5G small cells on new light poles on Main Street

Kristen Graham and Geraldo Carcamo with Verizon Wireless were present to present new information on the proposed 5G small cells to be located on light poles on Main Street. Commissioners were shown drawings of the proposed new light poles in the 200, 400, 600

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and 700 blocks of Main Street.

Ms. Graham said the City of North Little Rock legislation concerning 5G small cell stipulates that only one cell per pole can be installed. She said the North Little Rock Electric Department will own the poles and Verizon will have a ten year lease.

Boards were displayed showing details of the four new poles. Ms. Brown said the lights, plant and banner arms will be in the same location as the existing poles. The new poles will be 35ft. tall with a base diameter of 26" and a pole diameter of 12".

Commissioner Ross Maestas said he is concerned about the potential of other carriers installing poles. Ms. Graham said the antenna poles will have to be 300ft. apart.

Chairman Marr called for public comment and there was none.

Debra Roberts asked Sandra Smith for an opinion. Ms. Smith said her main concern is how many tall poles will end up being installed by Verizon and other carriers. Ms. Smith asked Ms. Graham if they could locate the cells on the top of buildings. Ms. Graham said not at this time.

With no further discussion by Commissioners, Debra Roberts moved to approve the application to install four 35ft. tall poles with 26" base diameter and 12" pole diameter and with lights and brackets as the existing poles have. Mason Toms seconded the motion and it was approved 6-0 in roll call vote.

New Business:

A. 512 Willow Street- Restoration of house

George Collins was in attendance to present the application for restoration of the house at 512 Willow Street. Mr. Collins told the Commission that he has made an offer on the property, but has not closed the on purchase. He expects the transaction to be final within ten days.

Slides were shown of the house which was seriously damaged by a tree falling on it during a storm in June 2019. Mr. Collins said he has cleaned up the property and put a construction fence around it to protect it. He said he plans to restore the house to its appearance after the 1999 restoration by the Argenta Community Development Corporation. Slides were shown of the house in the original historic district survey in 1992, after the 1999 restoration, and in its current condition. Mr. Collins said he will be utilizing historic renovation tax credits. Mr. Collins said every wood window is intact as well as the original front door.

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Prior to the storm damage, the house was contributing in the Argenta Historic District and once restored, will remain a contributing property.

Sandra Smith said the house was constructed c.1910 and is a Shotgun style. She said shotgun houses were usually associated with rural farmsteads, utilized as laborer housing. They were very prevalent in east and south Arkansas farms. She said there were a number of shotgun style houses in Argenta, but slowly they were replaced with larger and more substantial houses. There are two sets of shotgun style houses remaining in the Argenta Historic District along the east side of the 500 block of Willow, and along the east side of the 800 block of Orange Street.

Debra Roberts made a motion to approve the restoration of the house at 512 Willow as presented, contingent on finalization of ownership. Ross Maestas seconded the motion and it was approve 6-0 in roll call vote.

B. 311 W. 7th Street- Install wood siding; rebuild rear stairway and deck

Property owner Henry Coleman was in attendance. He explained the property was willed to him from his father. He said the outside wood-like material is literally falling apart and he understood that any replacement would need to be wood. He said his application is to remove the rotted material and replace with 5 ½" overlap wood siding. He said he plans to use corner boards. He said he also plans to rebuild the stairway and deck on the rear (north elevation) of the house.

Chairman Marr called for public comment and there was none.

On a motion by Mason Toms and a second by Ken Davenport, the motion to install wood siding and rebuild a rear stairway was approved 6-0 in roll call vote.

Other Discussion:

Mike Marlar and Sally Dorsey of Marlar Engineering presented the Commission with drawings showing the proposed "traffic calming" changes on W. 7th Street. Mr. Marlar said it is a similar project to the one by Shorter College that is currently under construction.

He said a sign would be installed on the median on the west end of the project on its west end at the intersection of N. Broadway and Willow Street. He said there will be a median in the street between Willow and Maple. Sweet gum trees will be planted and there will be decorative lighting. Charlie Hart asked if there would be a bike lane. Mr. Marlar said there is not room for a bike lane. City Engineer Chris Wilbourn said the project will probably begin in 2020 and will be funded through ward monies and grants.

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Staff Report

Sandra Smith reported she is still talking with the City Attorney's office about the 116 Melrose Divide violation.

After determining there was no further business to discuss, Charlie Hart moved to adjourn and the motion was seconded by Mason Toms. Meeting was adjourned at 6:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra Taylor Smith, Director