

Minutes
Historic Resources Board
City Commission Room, City Hall
1101 Poyntz Avenue
March 23, 2009
4:00 p.m.

Members Present: Tom Roberts, Chair; Ray Weisenburger; Tracy Anderson; Patrick Schaub; Bonnie Lynn-Sherow; Elaine Mohr.

Members Absent: Brooke Norman-Tapp, Vice Chair.

Others Present: Blake Bauer; Steve Lee; Jim Sherow; Linda Glasgow.

Staff Present: Cam Moeller, Planner II; Eddie Eastes, Parks Superintendent; Luci Von Lintel, Horticulturalist.

1. Consider the minutes of the February 23, 2009, Historic Resources Board meeting.

Schaub moved that the Board approve the minutes, with a minor correction. Mohr seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 5-0. (Lynn-Sherow had not yet arrived)

2. ENVIRONS REVIEW

New Storefront, 409 Poyntz Ave, Ballard/Penney's Building (Non-Contributing Structure within Downtown Historic District; within environs of Manhattan State Bank, Riley County Courthouse, Manhattan Carnegie Library, Community House, Houston & Pierre Streets Residential Historic District, and Lyda-Jean Apartment House).

Moeller provided an overview of the proposal.

Blake Bauer, representing the applicant, explained that they hope to make the retail space more appealing to tenants by improving the appearance of the storefront, including new doors.

Lynn-Sherow moved that the Board find that the proposed sign meets *The Standards and Guidelines for Evaluating the Effect of Projects on Environs* and will not encroach upon, damage or destroy any listed historic property or its environs.

Schaub seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 5-0 (Anderson abstained).

3. ENVIRONS REVIEW

Sign Permit, B Street Design, 512 Poyntz Ave (within environs of Downtown Historic District; Manhattan Carnegie Library, Riley County Courthouse, Manhattan State Bank, Houston & Pierre Streets Residential Historic District, Mattie M. Elliot House, E.A. & Ura Wharton House and Lyda-Jean Apartment House).

Moeller provided an overview of the proposal.

Lynn-Sherow said the size and shape of the signs are compatible with the environs but the illumination may be questionable. Lynn-Sherow noted that the location of the property is nearer

to the churches on Poyntz Avenue, which have been identified as a potential “Institutional” historic district, than to the commercial core.

Lynn-Sherow moved that the Board find that the proposed sign meets *The Standards and Guidelines for Evaluating the Effect of Projects on Environs* and will not encroach upon, damage or destroy any listed historic property or its environs.

Schaub seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 5-0 (Anderson abstained).

It was discussed that City Staff would contact the applicant to inquire about the hours when the signs would be illuminated and to forward the Board’s concerns.

4. Old Riley County Jail: Storage for Parks & Recreation

Eddie Eastes and Luci Von Lintel presented the Parks & Recreation Department’s proposal to make use of the old Riley County Jail building at 6th & Colorado as storage space for groundskeeping equipment. Eastes said that since the building has been sitting empty it has fallen into a certain amount of disrepair. Eastes said that the proposed use would provide for more upkeep and maintenance of the building.

Lynn-Sherow said she had concerns about investing too much in the building since earlier assessments have determined the building to be unsalvageable for future use. Eastes said it is not his intent to spend a lot on the building either.

Weisenburger said he is in favor of making some use of the building so that it looks a little more presentable.

Lynn-Sherow said the building is not as old as many would think, and noted that it was a WPA project.

Weisenburger moved that the Board not oppose the proposed temporary use of the building as storage for Parks and Recreation.

Mohr seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 5-0 (Lynn-Sherow abstained).

5. Historic Signs on South 4th Street

Anderson left the meeting due to an appointment.

Steve Lee presented the designs for three proposed signs to be placed on South 4th Street: an interpretive panel sign to be located in front of the Bethel AME church with a historic narrative about Manhattan’s African-American community, a street sign at 4th & Yuma with information about the Douglass School, and a street sign at 4th & Colorado with information about the Hulse-Daughters House.

The Board made suggestions regarding some minor changes in terminology and wording of the African-American community interpretive panel sign. By consensus, it was agreed that the

Board would review the interpretive panel sign once more, after the suggested revisions had been made.

Schaub moved that the Board approve of the design of the Douglas Center sign. Lynn-Sherow seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 5-0.

Schaub moved that the Board approve of the design and wording of the Hulse-Daughters House sign. Mohr seconded the motion, which passed on a vote of 4-0 (Lynn-Sherow abstained).

6. Brick Sidewalk Ordinances

Jim Sherow presented the Board with options that can be considered for creating either guidelines or incentives for brick sidewalk preservation, including the establishment of design guidelines within historic districts or the formation of benefit districts for interested neighborhoods.

It was discussed that Lynn-Sherow would prepare a document further outlining the options to consider.

Moeller said he would talk to Code Services, in the meantime, about providing information to property owners regarding brick sidewalk repair when notices to repair sidewalks are issued.

7. Announcements and Updates

- **Houston & Pierre Streets Residential Historic District: Added to National Register of Historic Places**
- **Historic Research: South Downtown Redevelopment Area**
- **Administrative Environs Review: Building Addition – Laundry Room, 824 Leavenworth Street (*within environs of Robert Ulrich House*)**
- **SHPO Review: 527 Pierre Street**

Moeller said he was planning to send out an Intouch email about the Houston & Pierre Historic District being newly listed on the National Register. It was suggested that the City's TV channel could also be utilized.

The Board discussed having the Mayor read a proclamation for Preservation Month in May.

There was discussion about the opportunity for some level of archaeological study of the South Downtown Redevelopment Area, including privies.

8. Future Items

9. Upcoming Meetings:

- Monday, April 27, 2009
- Thursday, May 21, 2009

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cam Moeller, AICP, Planner II

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