



Historic District Commission Meeting

Wednesday, March 19, 2008

14 North Street, Visitors Center, Claremont at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Approved 5/22/08

Meeting called to order by Chair Messier at 7:15 PM

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Jason Farrell, Brenda Taite, David Messier, Peter Guillette, Deborah Cutts, Trinity Dix

City Staff: Allan Britton, Director of Planning and Development; Kurt Beek, Project Manager; Michelle Aiken, Boards & Commissions Coordinator

Absent: John Hall

II. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY - Minutes from February 28, 2008 meeting minutes

Motion to: Minutes from February 28, 2008 meeting

Made by: Mr. Farrell

Second: Ms. Dix

Vote: Unanimous

III. Sawtooth Presentation

Mr. Kurt Beek, Project Manager for the City of Claremont presented plans for the Sawtooth parking garage. Mr. Beek advised that in 2005 the City received 2- \$500,000 HUD Grants for the downtown revitalization. The City was looking for sites for additional parking which was needed with the Condos in the mill buildings. The City hired Desmond & Associates to provide information on demolishing the building and building a new garage or keeping some of the historic nature of the building. The City worked closely with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and due to public interest/input it was obvious that the building had to be saved and keep part of the historic structure.

Mr. Beek advised that SHPO instructed them that the new additions must be differentiated and not to try to match color, texture or materials so that the original structure can be distinguished. The new additions will be made of pre-cast concrete units. The City has also spent approximately \$1 Million on hazardous clean up. One of the requirements was to produce a Historic As Built Survey Report. A copy is kept with the file and copies could also be kept at the library, etc.

Mr. Beek advised that the garage will accommodate 256 parking spaces, ground floor and two stories. About 10% of those spaces will be for the public, the others will be designated for mills, etc. Mr. Beek presented the Site Plan and Elevations and showed that they will be utilizing all the existing entrances and windows and there will be no new ones.

Mr. Beek also advised that the Historic District Commission previously gave the City the permission to demolish the property due to contamination and costs to renovate. Due to public interest and input that was not the direction the City went in.

IV. Opera House Letter of Support

Chair Messier appointed Ms. Cutts to Chair meeting on Opera House letter due to the fact that he is doing the work on the Opera House and this would be a conflict.

Motion to: approve the letter of support to the Opera House for the interior improvements they are making

Made by: Ms. Cutts **Second:** Mr. Guillette **Vote:** Unanimous

V. Correspondence

- Certificate of Appropriateness issued to St. Mary's Parish

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to: To Adjourn

Made by: Ms. Cutts **Second:** Mr. Guillette **Vote:** Unanimous

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:14 pm

Respectfully Submitted By,

Michelle Aiken
Boards and Commissions Coordinator