

COURTHOUSE SQUARE PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Be it remembered that the Courthouse Square Preservation Commission did meet in regular session on Monday, July 2, 2012, at 5:00 p.m. on the second floor in the courtroom of City Hall with the following members present:

Andy Phillips, Chairman
Mike Bridge
Donna Gottshall
Jim Pryor
William Turner
Lee Benoit

Katrina Hourin, Assistant City Planner
Cynthia White, Meeting Secretary

Absent from the meeting was Mike Overstreet and Architectural Consultant, Virginia Pence.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Phillips. With a quorum of 6, Chairman Phillips moved on to the

Approval of Minutes from the June 4, 2012 Meeting

Chairman Phillips asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the June 4th meeting. He asked that on page 2, before the approval of COA case #95, it be notated that he did not vote as he is the chairman and only votes in the event of a tie vote. A motion was made to approve the minutes of June 4th by Commissioner Gottshall and seconded by Commissioner Pryor.

All present voting aye.

The motion was approved.

Approval of Agenda

Chairman Phillips asked if there were any necessary modifications to the agenda. There being no changes to the agenda, motion was made by Commissioner Turner and seconded by Commissioner Benoit to accept the agenda.

All present voting aye.

The motion was approved and the agenda was accepted.

Public hearing for Case #96 – Request for COA for property located at 1101 East Jackson Avenue-Petra Café.

Mr. Corey Alger appeared before the commission representing the owners as architect. The request is for the roof to be leveled to a 2 foot slope, in order to improve water drainage and stop roof leaks. A barn tin roof will be added to abut the building next door, and a second floor as unoccupied space will be added in the rear. A canopy will be added over the front street door and cast metal individual letters added as front signage. There are presently no plans for lighting as this is a daytime business, but this could change in the future. At the rear kitchen door, a steel platform canopy will be added to protect workers and deliveries to the restaurant from the elements. The building will be painted all one color, and no other changes will be made.

Virginia Pence, the Architectural Consultant, sent an email with her comments on this application as she was unable to attend the meeting: The proposed addition follows Section 6 of the Oxford Design Guidelines, particularly: locating the addition on the rear or inconspicuous side of the historic building; designing additional stories set back from the wall plane and inconspicuous from the street; and designing the new addition, making clear what is historic and what is new. The proposed canopy is of typical scale and layout for this age of commercial storefront, with the material complimenting the existing street front.

With no further questions, Chairman Phillips requested a motion for approval. Commissioner Turner made a motion to accept the COA as written. Commissioner Pryor seconded the motion. Chairman Phillips asked for further discussion and there being none requested a vote. The vote was unanimous and the motion for Case #96 was approved.

Commissioner Bridge continued a discussion regarding the signage and the perceived conflict between the Historic Downtown and the City of Oxford's sign ordinance, additionally requesting more restrictions for downtown signage with regard to size, color, design, lighting, and a limit to the number of signs. A work session will be scheduled for the August monthly meeting in order to formulate suggestions. Chairman Phillips will attend the Ordinance Review meeting to express these concerns on Tuesday, July 3rd. The concern of the commission is to have more restrictive sign regulations for the Downtown Square Preservation area, having input as a commission and not as individuals.

Commissioner Gottshall moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bridge.

All present voting aye.

The meeting was adjourned.