

Historical Commission Meeting Minutes

City of Foley Council Chambers

407 E. Laurel Ave.

Foley, Alabama

April 14, 2020

1:00 p.m.

Due to COVID-19 we will accept email comments (mringler@cityoffoley.org or acole@cityoffoley.org). Or you may call 952-4011 and Melissa or Amanda can take your verbal comments. These will be entered into the meeting minutes. The HC members will be conducting the meeting via teleconferencing. If you wish to participate in this manner dial 1-414-410-9842 PIN 928 671 277. If you choose to attend the meeting please follow social distancing rules.

Members present were Kathie LeDrew and Janay Dawson. Justin Shanks, Randy Arp, Kerry Slota, Donna Turbyfill and Jack Purser attending via teleconference. Staff present was Melissa Ringler, Recording Secretary. Chuck Lay, Chief Building Inspector and Amanda Cole, Planning and Zoning Assistant attended via teleconference.

I. Call to order

Chairman Justin Shanks called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

II. Roll call

III. Approval of Minutes

- Approve December 10, 2019 minutes as published

Commissioner Purser made a motion to approve the December 10, 2019 meeting minutes. Commissioner Dawson seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye.

Motion to approve the December 10, 2019 meeting minutes passes.

IV. Staff Approval

- Ron & Shannon Lee
222 S. Alston St.
National District-Contributing
 - a. Request to install exterior lighting

Mr. Chuck Lay stated a staff approval was done for the electric gas style outside lighting.

V. New Business

- Our Coffee Shop
Joanna Mayes
358 N. Alston St.
National District – Contributing
 - a. Request for building addition/exterior remodel

Chairman Shanks stated he had taken photos of the building and shared through email with the Commissioners.

Commissioner Purser stated it looks like there are two issues: an addition to the building and a fence. He explained both of these items would be covered under page 18 of the design guidelines which states when considering alterations or renovations, great care should be given to

maintain the character of the original building. He stated the items could possibly be considered under new construction and additions on page 19 which states the construction would need to be something that would have been present in that time period.

Commissioners asked what the wall is made of and if it will be brick what type of brick would be used.

Mr. Sted McCollough apologized for the lack of detail on the sketches. He stated they are still in the early stages of the project. He explained they are trying to create covered/uncovered seating and a courtyard area. He explained the wall will be approximately 36" to 4' tall and the area will be heavily landscaped. He stated they are currently dealing with city staff on a setback issue.

Commissioner Dawson stated she has concern regarding the addition and the entry element which completely changes the current look of the building. She asked if the entry element would be attached to the building.

Mr. McCollough stated they will be taking off a portion of the existing roof to allow for the addition of the new parapet wall to be added.

Commissioner Dawson stated physically changing the building is not allowed. She explained many buildings within the district currently have awnings that can be removed without damaging the building. She asked if the addition could be removed without causing damage. She explained changes to the building could possibly cause the building to be removed from the national registry and the owner to lose tax incentives.

Mr. McCollough stated it could be removed in his opinion and will be attached with roof flashing to prevent leakage. He asked if they would be required to use the existing entry element or if they could use something that is not attached to the building.

Chairman Shanks stated they are not saying some type of façade cannot be done but it would need to be integrated into the existing roof.

Chuck Lay stated the structure cannot be permanently changed. He stated something can be done that could be torn away without damaging the structure.

Commissioner Dawson asked about the possibility of landscaping the area and doing a small picket style fence that would not be connected to the front entry way.

Commissioner Turbyfill asked if they are in agreement that the items requested are covered under section 14, page 19, Additions of the design guidelines.

Commissioner Purser stated section 13 and 14 could possibly both apply to the request.

Commissioner Dawson asked about the possibility of establishing an opening on the north end of the building with a courtyard rather than on the west side.

Mr. McCollough stated he felt there is potential to move the entry to the north side. He explained an addition will also be added onto the back of the building where there was an existing addition. He asked if converting an existing window into a door would be allowed.

Chairman Shanks stated you can clearly see there is an existing addition on the back of the building and it appears it would just be enlarged.

Commissioner Dawson stated the addition on the back of the building does not appear to be a problem as long as it cannot be seen from the front of the building. She explained nothing can be done that will change the building look. Windows can be changed out with windows or similar materials but the dimensions cannot be changed.

Mr. McCollough stated if he is not able to change a window into a door on the north end it creates a major issue with moving the addition to the north side since there is no door on that side of the building.

Commissioner Purser stated the courtyard could be on the north side with the entrance still being routed to the front.

Ms. Joanna Mayes stated she loves the look of the building and wants the addition to feel like it belongs with the building and is something from that time period. She explained they are trying to find a way to keep the integrity of the building and bring something new to the community.

Mr. Lay stated the applicant may want to contact a historical consultant to ensure the changes would not remove the building off of the national registry.

Commissioner Purser stated he feels there are no issues with the brick wall.

Commissioner Turbyfill stated as long as the scale of the wall does not block the beautiful windows and elements of the building she sees no issues.

Mr. McCollough asked if they are allowed to build an entry element on front the front if it is not attached.

Vice-Chairman LeDrew stated as long as it is not attached she doesn't see any issues.

Chairman Shanks stated he feels if the addition is freestanding and the existing roof is not affected the item would be within the guidelines.

Mr. McCollough requested to withdraw the application at this time in order for him to consult with his client.

VI. Monthly Open Discussion

There were no monthly items to discuss.

VII. Adjournment

Commissioner Purser made a motion to adjourn at 1:53 p.m. Commissioner Dawson seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye.

Motion to adjourn at 1:53 p.m. passes.