

Historical Commission Minutes

City of Foley Council Chambers 407 E.

Laurel Ave.

Foley, Alabama

November 7, 2023

1:00 p.m.

I. Call to order

Chairman JaNay Dawson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

II. Roll call

Members present were: Chad Watkins, Jerry Morrison, JaNay Dawson, Kathie LeDrew, Donna Turbyfill, and Kim Ward. Absent member was Bill Swanson. Staff present were: Chuck Lay, Chief Building Inspector; Nathan Smith, Building Inspector; Amanda Cole, Planning and Zoning Assistant and Melissa Ringler, Recording Secretary.

III. Approval of Minutes

- Approve September 5, 2023 minutes as published

Commissioner Ward made a motion to approve the September 5, 2023 meeting minutes. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion. All members voted aye.

Motion to approve the September 5, 2023 meeting minutes passes.

IV. New Business

- Scuttlebutt Pub
Daniel Cox
319 N. McKenzie St.
National District-Non-Contributing
 - a. Request to install wall and freestanding signage

Mr. Cox explained there is currently a wall and free standing sign on the property. He stated they have tried replacing the bulbs in the existing freestanding signage which did not fix the problem. He stated the free standing sign is very faded and he would like to replace it with something classy.

Chairman Dawson explained the design guidelines state the internally illuminated freestanding signage is not allowed.

Commissioner Morrison asked if there was an existing free standing sign on the property.

Mr. Cox explained the current signage was existing when he bought the business and is illuminated from within.

Mr. Morrison asked Mr. Cox's thoughts regarding installing a sign that is not illuminated from within.

Mr. Cox explained he feels a non-illuminated sign would be a waste of money. He stated he needs something that will attract people's attention.

Commissioner Morrison asked the applicant if they have talked to the signage company about other signage options.

Mr. Cox stated his goal is to make people slow down and recognize his business and the downtown area.

Commissioner LeDrew stated she is not opposed to the signage look other than the lighting of it internally.

Commissioner Watkins stated he feels the Design Guidelines page 53, Section C, regarding channel letters and routed signs would allow for a box style sign with the letters only of the signage to be cut out and illuminated.

Chairman Dawson stated the current lights above the wall signage are not shining directly on the sign and goose neck style lights would make it more noticeable.

Commissioner Morrison stated he feels the word cocktail overpowers the sign and doesn't describe the fact that the business is a pub.

Mrs. Darrelyn Dunmoore stated Main Street Alabama will be holding meetings regarding the best codes and practices for downtown areas. She explained she will send an invitation to the Commissioners.

Commissioner Morrison stated the design and layout of the sign is important. He thanked the applicant for his commitment to the downtown area.

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to vote on the free standing and wall signage separately. Commissioner Ward seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye.

Motion to vote on the free standing signage and wall signage separately passes.

Commissioner Morrison made a motion to table the free standing signage request until Mr. Cox can provide the Commissioners with another sign design focusing more on the Pub with only the letters on the sign being illuminated. Commissioner LeDrew seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye.

Motion to table the free standing signage request until Mr. Cox can provide the Commissioners with another sign design focusing more on the Pub with only the letters on the sign being illuminated passes.

Mr. Cox explained he would get another rendering for the free standing sign from the sign company and present it to the Commission. He stated he can repaint the existing wall sign and add wall lights to shine onto the sign to make it stand out more.

Commissioner Turbyfill made a motion to approve updating the existing wall signage and to add historically appropriate lighting to the building to light up the signage. Commissioner Ward seconded the motion.

Mr. Lay stated he feels the lighting needs to be reviewed by the Commissioners before it is installed.

Commissioner Morrison made a motion to table Mr. Cox request for the wall signage until a rendering of the lights are provided for review. Commissioner Turbyfill seconded the motion. All Commissioners

voted aye.

Motion to table Mr. Cox request for the wall signage until a rendering of the lights is provided for review passes.

- Approval of the 2024 Meeting/Deadline Calendar

Commissioner LeDrew made a motion to approve the 2024 Meeting/Deadline Calendar. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye.

Motion to approve the 2024 Meeting/Deadline Calendar passes.

- Select a Nominating Committee for the 2024 Officers

Commissioner Watkins and Commissioner Ward were selected to serve as the nominating committee.

VII. Monthly Discussion

- Mark Wright
118 W. Laurel Ave.
Discuss repairs and progress of the building

Mr. Mark Wright stated he and Jeremy Freeman were present to give the Commission an update on the progress of the work being done at 118 W. Laurel Ave. He explained the window replacement should be completed in the next couple of weeks. He stated the front windows will take a little longer to repair and will be removed and taken to a shop to have the glass replaced and trim stripped down. They are working with the city on the electrical hook up details. He explained the sewer services have been verified. He stated once the renovations are complete the building will occupy a restaurant on the bottom floor with three living quarters, an office and storage to be located on the second floor. He explained due to the molding around the front windows the proposed awning will need to be changed. He stated the side awning to be installed will be metal awnings which were previously approved by the Commission. He explained the front awning will be supported with a cable from the top of the building. He stated several of the same style of awnings are currently installed on buildings within the district such as the Rat Pack Barber shop and Mama Mia's.

Chairman Dawson stated the change in the awnings will have to be submitted and reviewed by the Commission.

Mr. Wright stated they have done some repointing of the brick on the building. He stated the mortar was matched as close as possible. He stated the brick has been bleached and cleaned. He explained there is a bunch of different colors of mortar and the bottom half of the building was previously painted. He asked for the Commissioner's guidance on possibly painting the building. He stated due to moisture issues they feel the best option would be to paint the entire building to protect the building.

Mr. Lay stated the applicant would have to go through the same process as previous applicants and get a 3rd party expert to provide a written opinion of the building needing to be painted and sealed for protection.

Chairman Dawson stated she hated to see a building be painted if it is not needed.

Mr. Wright stated one of the issues is half of the building has been painted which cannot be removed

without sandblasting which will damage the brick. He asked about possibly adding an addition onto the garage located at 232 W. Laurel Ave. which will be used for an office and restroom.

Chairman Dawson stated the addition would have to be reviewed by the Commission.

VIII. Adjournment

Commissioner LeDrew made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:15 p.m. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:15 p.m. passes.