

Historical Commission Minutes

City of Foley Council Chambers
407 E. Laurel Ave., Foley, Alabama

November 4, 2025

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: JaNay Dawson, Tyler Higginbotham, Jerry Morrison, Kathie LeDrew, Kim Ward and Bill Swanson. Staff present were: Jonathan Cottis, Building Official; Eden Lapham, Planner 1; Amanda Cole, Planning and Zoning Assistant and Melissa Ringler, Recording Secretary.

III. Approval of Minutes

- Approve June 3, 2025 minutes as published

Commissioner Ward made a motion to approve the June 3, 2025 meeting minutes. Commissioner LeDrew seconded the motion. All members voted aye.

Motion to approve the June 3, 2025 meeting minutes passes.

IV. Staff Approvals

- City of Foley Welcome Center
104 N. McKenzie St.
National District- Contributing
a. Request to repaint the back and side walls
- Yawdie, LLC- A Taste of Home
Duane Besentie
117 W. Orange Ave.
National District-Contributing
a. Request to repaint front and side of building

Staff went over the approvals with the Commissioners.

V. New Business

- Yawdie, LLC-A Taste of Home
Duane Besentie
S. of W. Orange Ave. and E. of S. Alston St.
National District
a. Request to construct a 10 x 10 building to be used for cooking

Mr. Jonathan Cottis stated the cooking shed details are included in the packet. He explained the cooking shed will be constructed of noncombustible materials with screen/wire mesh on the upper portion of the structure. The structure will be used as a commercial kitchen for the applicant's restaurant. He explained a permit was submitted but required changes due to a change in the

location.

Mr. Duane Besentie stated the structure will be located on a 20' x 15' slab, include hurricane strapping and be built according to all requirements.

Chairman Dawson asked about the two existing storage buildings located on the lot.

Mr. Besentie stated the existing storage units are owned by the landlord. He explained the landlord has plans to relocate the two buildings and fix up the grounds which will increase property value.

Chairman Dawson asked about the distance between the smoker and Cheeseburger Randy's.

Mrs. Dunmore explained there is a lot of space between the proposed smoker and Cheeseburger Randy's.

Mr. Besentie stated he wants to add value to the community and bring in a taste of his home with authentic Jamaican food.

Commissioner asked about outdoor seating.

Mr. Besentie stated there will be a few benches outdoors for dining. He explained the business will be mainly take out.

Mr. Cottis explained the Fire Department has been involved and no kitchen hood will be required due to the open flame and construction materials. He stated they have been advised they will need to provide fire extinguishers.

Mr. Besentie stated in order to provide authentic Jamaican food they need to be able to cook over open flames. He stated they will also be selling merchandise and coffee in the building.

Commissioner Swanson made a motion to approve the request Certificate of Appropriateness. Commissioner Higginbotham seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye.

Motion to approve the requested Certificate of Appropriateness passes.

- Approval of the 2026 Meeting/Deadline Calendar

Commissioner Swanson made a motion to approve the 2026 meeting/deadline calendar. Commissioner Higginbotham seconded the motion. All members voted aye.

Motion to approve the 2026 meeting/deadline calendar passes.

- Select a Nominating Committee for the 2026 Officers

Commission Morrison selected Commission Higginbotham and Commission Ward for the nominating committee for the 2026 officers. Commissioner LeDrew seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye.

Motion to approve Commissioner Higginbotham and Commissioner Ward for the nominating committee for the 2026 officers passes.

VI. Monthly Discussion

There were no monthly discussion items.

VII. Adjournment

Commissioner Morrison made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:31 p.m. Commissioner Higginbotham seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted aye.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:31 p.m. passes.