



City of Richmond

Where History Meets Opportunity

Richmond Historical Commission Meeting Minutes

Zoom Virtual Meeting Platform

Tuesday, April 20, 2021, at 8:00 am.

The Richmond Historical Commission met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. Jose Abraham, Historic Preservation Officer, called the meeting to order. A quorum was present, with the following members in attendance:

Karen Bleil
Jess Stuart
Carol Edwards
Lonnie Meadows
Clair Rogers

Staff in attendance: Jose Abraham, *Historic Preservation Officer (HPO)*; Brittany Mullings, *Public Works Executive Secretary*; Gary Smith, *City Attorney*; Mason Garcia, *Associate Planner*; and Lori Bownds, *Building Official*.

Mr. Abraham, HPO declared the meeting open.

Mr. Abraham, HPO, introduced agenda item number A2., Public comments. He asked if there were any public comments. Hearing no public comment, the agenda item was closed.

Mr. Abraham, HPO, introduced agenda item number A3., Elect Chair and Vice-Chair. Commission member Edwards declined the nomination for the Chair position. Commission member Bleil volunteered to serve as Chair. Commission member Meadows volunteered to serve as Vice-Chair. Commission member Edwards moved to elect Commission member Bleil as Chair and Commission member Meadows as Vice Chair. Commission member Rogers seconded the motion. The vote for approval was unanimous.

Chairperson Bleil introduced agenda item A4., Discuss and consider taking action on reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flags and Texas flag before each meeting. Mr. Smith explained that the City Commission adopted a policy to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America and Texas flags before each meeting. He added that the policy allows each Board and Commission to decide whether or not to recite the pledges at their respective meetings. Mr. Abraham added that the Planning and Zoning Commission decided to do the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flags and Texas flag during in person meetings. Commission members discussed the policy and expressed their preference to recite the pledge of allegiance only at in-person meetings. Commission member Edwards moved to start reciting the Pledge of allegiance to the

United States of America and Texas flags when in-person meetings resume. Commission member Rogers seconded the motion. The vote for approval was unanimous. Commission Member Stuart volunteered to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairperson Bleil introduced consent agenda items B1-B2.

- B1. Review and approve minutes from March 9, 2021, regular meeting.
- B2. Announce the next Richmond Historical Commission meeting to be held on May 18, 2021.

Commission member Meadows moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Commission member Edwards seconded the motion. The vote for approval was unanimous.

Chairperson Bleil, introduced agenda item C1a., Community and Museum Events Update. Commission member Rogers provided the following updates:

- Oak Bends Restaurant Weeks in April 2021.
- Oak Bend is having a virtual event called Power of the Purse taking place on April 29, 2021.
- Fort Bend Museum has the Sunset Music Series, starting April 22, 2021 at The Moore House. The band will be the Fort Bend Brass Quintet.
- Richmond Rotary is having a fundraiser at the Swinging Door April 29, 2021.
- The Fort Bend Museum Docents will be having a meeting May 8, 2021. They will be talking about the renovations of the Museum.
- Fort Bend Museum is planning to reopen in July.
- Railroad Museum is having a Gala on May 1, 2021.
- At the park, there will be a WWII reenactment on May 1, 2021.
- The Big Top Vintage Market will be on May 8-9, 2021.
- The City of Richmond is planning an Economic Development Week.

Mr. Abraham, HPO, introduced agenda item C2a., Certificate of appropriateness for a proposed exterior painting and roof repair for *Historic Moore Home* located at 406 S. 5th Street. He explained that the proposed work includes repairing the carriageway columns with plastic wood and wood filler, repairing the first-floor porch ceiling and balcony floor, soft washing and/or scraping the entire house for repainting, and replacing the following materials in kind: the roof shingles, the fascia of the semi-circular portico, the pine lap board siding, the pine fascia, and the sheet metal covering the carriageway. He added that the Texas Historical Commission has reviewed and determined that the proposed work meets the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. He concluded by stating that the proposed work conforms to the Historic District Design Guidelines and recommended approval of the Certificate of appropriateness. Commission member Edwards asked if they received special funding for the repairs. Commission member Rogers, on behalf of Fort Bend Museum, confirmed that a grant was received from a local foundation. Commission member Edwards stated that the Garden Club of Richmond gives small grants every year. To her knowledge they have not given out any grants out yet. Commission member Rogers appreciated the information and indicated her interest in reaching out to the

Garden club. Commission member Edwards moved to approve the Certificate of appropriateness for a proposed exterior painting and roof repair for *Historic Moore Home* located at 406 S. 5th Street. Commission member Meadows seconded the motion. The vote for the motion was unanimous.

Chairperson Bleil, introduced agenda item C2b., Certificate of appropriateness for a proposed sign for the old Fire Station building located at 112 Jackson St. Mr. Abraham, HPO, explained that as part of the upgrade and construction process, the City is planning to locate a 4 X 4 feet freestanding temporary sign, to advertise the building upgrade project. He added that City is in the process of attracting a business suitable for the Historic District for the subject site. He also indicated that a graphical representation of the sign will be provided as it becomes available Mr. Abraham concluded by recommending approval of the Certificate of appropriateness. Commission member Edwards moved to approve the Certificate of appropriateness for a proposed sign for the old Fire Station building located at 112 Jackson St. Commission member Rogers seconded the motion. The vote for the motion was unanimous.

Chairperson Bleil, introduced agenda item C2c. Certificate of appropriateness for proposed lamp post banner signs along Morton Street. Mr. Abraham, HPO, explained that the City is considering installation of lamppost banner signs with Patriotic theme by the end of May 2021, considering upcoming Memorial Day and may continue to be displayed through Independence Day, Labor Day and Veteran's Day. Commission member Edwards moved to approve the Certificate of appropriateness for proposed lamp post banner signs along Morton Street. Commission member Rogers seconded the motion. The vote for the motion was unanimous.

Chairperson Bleil, introduced agenda item C2d. General discussion about Richmond Historic District Design Guidelines and provisions of the Unified Development Code. Mr. Abraham, HPO, made a brief presentation to initiate a general review and discussion on current Richmond Historic District Design Guidelines and provisions of the UDC. He explained that staff is seeking input from the Commission to improve the current guidelines and assess processes involved in development and preservation within Historic District. Mr. Abraham and Commission members generally discussed various aspects of the Richmond Historic District guidelines. Mr. Abraham also explained that staff is updating the City website's Historical Commission webpage to add a GIS story map and other useful information.

Chairperson Bleil, introduced agenda item C3., Consider agenda item requests by Commission Members for May 18, 2021. No requests were presented.

There being no further business to be brought before the Richmond Historical Commission, Chairperson Bleil, adjourned the meeting.

Approved



Karen Bleil.

Chair, Richmond Historical Commission