

Where History Meets Opportunity

Richmond Historical Commission Meeting Minutes

City Commission Room (In-Person and Zoom) | 600 Morton Street, Richmond, Texas 77469

Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at 8:00 a.m.

The Richmond Historical Commission met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at 8:05 a.m. Chairperson Edwards called the meeting to order. A quorum was present, with the following members in attendance:

Carol Edwards – Chair
Jackie Atkinson – Vice-Chair
Payton McGee
Gary Gillen
Lonnie Meadows
David Smith
Jess Stuart
Madeleine Calcote-Garcia

Staff in attendance: Mason Garcia, Historic Preservation Officer (HPO); Helen Landaverde, Planner II; Matthew Roberts, Planner I; Gary Smith, City Attorney; and Brittany Mullings, Public Works Executive Secretary, Rebecca K. Haas, Mayor (via Zoom).

Chairperson Edwards declared the meeting open.

Chairperson Edwards introduced agenda item number A2., Recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag and Texas Flag. Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag and Texas Flag was recited.

Chairperson Edwards introduced agenda item number A3., Public comments. She asked if there were any public comments. Hearing no public comments, the agenda item was closed.

Chairperson Edwards introduced consent agenda items B1-B2.

- B1. Review and approve minutes from February 20, 2024, regular meeting. Commission Member McGee moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Commission Member Stuart. The vote for approval was unanimous.
- B2. Announce the next Richmond Historical Commission meeting to be held on April 16, 2024, at 8:00 a.m. All were in favor.

Chairperson Edwards introduced regular agenda item C1a., Community and Museum Events Update.

- The Farmers Market will be on Friday, March 29, 2024. Located at the City Hall Plaza.
- The Fort Bend History Association will be hosting their Night in the Garden Party on April 6, 2024.
- Keep Richmond Beautiful will be hosting their Spring Shred Event, which will include electronics at the City Hall Plaza. There will also be a Tire Round-Up at the City Maintenance Facility.

Chairperson Edwards introduced regular agenda item C2., Certificate of Appropriateness for proposed wall sign at S 3rd Street, commercial building located at 103 S. 3rd Street. Mr. Garcia, HPO, explained that Treasure Hunters has moved locations and requested a Certificate of Appropriateness for signage at the new location. Staff recommended approval of the proposed signage. Commission Member McGee moved to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness of the proposed signage at 103 S. 3rd Street. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Atkinson. The vote for approval was unanimous.

Chairperson Edwards introduced regular agenda item C3., Certificate of Appropriateness for proposed building façade improvement at Morton Street, commercial building located at 302 Morton Street. Mr. Garcia, HPO, explained that the applicant is proposing to install wood raised panel trim and planter boxes to the exterior wall. Staff recommended approval of the Certificate of Appropriateness for the proposed building façade improvement. Commission Member Meadows moved to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness of the building façade improvements at 302 Morton Street. The motion was seconded by Commission Member McGee. The vote for approval was unanimous.

Chairperson Edwards introduced regular agenda item C4., Certificate of Appropriateness for proposed temporary wall sign at Morton Street, building located at 302 Morton Street. Mr. Garica, HPO, gave an overview of the proposed temporary wall sign. Staff recommended approval of the Certificate of Appropriateness for proposed signage at 302 Morton Street. Commission Member Stuart moved to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness of the proposed temporary signage at 302 Morton Street. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Atkinson. The vote for approval was unanimous.

Chairperson Edwards introduced regular agenda item C5., Review and recommendation to the City Commission for a request for Historic Property Tax Exemption Application for Darst-Yoder House located at 300 S 9th Street for the year 2024. Mr. Garcia, HPO, presented the staff report and recommended approval of the application for a tax exemption of 25% and indicated that the application fulfilled all eligibility criteria. Commission Member Gillen moved to recommend approval of an exemption from ad valorem taxes imposed by the City in an amount not exceeding twenty-five percent (25%) of the assessed value of the Darst-Yoder House for the year 2024 to the City Commission. Commission Member McGee seconded the motion. The vote for the motion was unanimous.

Chairperson Edwards introduced regular agenda item C6., Review and recommendation to the City Commission for a request for Historic Property Tax Exemption Application for Morton-McCloy House located at 402 N 2nd Street for the year 2024. Mr. Garcia, HPO, presented the staff report and recommended approval of the application for a tax exemption of 25% and indicated that the application fulfilled all eligibility criteria. Commission Member Gillen moved to recommend approval of an exemption from ad valorem taxes imposed by the City in an amount not exceeding twenty-five percent (25%) of the assessed value of the Morton-McCloy House for the year 2024 to the City Commission.

Commission Member McGee seconded the motion. The vote for the motion was unanimous.

Chairperson Edwards introduced regular agenda item C7., Review and recommendation to the City Commission for a request for Historic Property Tax Exemption Application for Pearson-Winston House located at 404 S 9th Street for the year 2024. Vice-Chair Atkinson abstained from participation in discussion and voting due to a conflict of interest. Mr. Garcia, HPO, presented the Staff report and recommended approval of the application for a tax exemption of 25% and indicated that the application fulfilled all eligibility criteria. Commission Member McGee moved to recommend approval of an exemption from ad valorem taxes imposed by the City in an amount not exceeding twenty-five percent (25%) of the assessed value of the Pearson-Winston House for the year 2024 to the City Commission. Commission Member Stuart seconded the motion. The vote for the motion was unanimous and included abstention by Commission member Atkinson.

Chairperson Edwards introduced regular agenda item C8., Consider item request by Commission Members for April 16, 2024, regular meeting. Chairperson Edwards requested an update on the Traffic Signal Wraps and expanding the historical district boundaries. Commission Member Gillen requested and update on the 10th Street expansion project and potential effects on the surrounding business near the street expansions. Mayor Haas suggested inviting County Commissioner Dexter McCoy to the April 16, 2024 meeting to discuss 10th Street expansion.

Chairperson Edwards introduced regular agenda item C9., Excuse from attendance at regular Richmond Historical Commission Meeting. Commission Member Gillen moved to approve the absences of the following Commission Members; Meadows, Atkinson, and Calcote-Garcia. Commission Member McGee seconded the motion. The vote for approval was unanimous.

There being no further business to be brought before the Richmond Historical Commission, Chairperson Edwards adjourned the meeting at 8:27 a.m.

Approved

Carol Edwards, Chair

Richmond Historical Commission

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