



City of Richmond

Where History Meets Opportunity

Richmond Historical Commission Meeting Minutes

600 Morton Street
City Commission Room
Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 8:00 A.M.

RICHMOND HISTORICAL COMMISSION MINUTES

The Richmond Historical Commission for the City of Richmond, Texas, met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. Cindy Drabek, Chairwoman, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. A quorum was present, with the following members in attendance:

Ann Council
Becky Haas
Cindy Drabek
Lonnie Meadows
Claire Rogers (non-voting)
Jess Stuart (non-voting)

Chairwoman Cindy Drabek declared the meeting open.

Chairwoman Cindy Drabek introduced agenda item number A1., public comment. She asked if there were any public comments. Mr. Robert Haas spoke on the discrepancy between the Unified Development Code language for in order to serve on the Richmond Historical Commission and that ordinance which was adopted in 2014. The Unified Development Code has tight restrictions on who can become a member in that he or she must live and own property in the Historic District. The ordinance adopted by the City in 2014 expanded the membership language to include residents residing outside of the Historic District to include the City Limits and the City's ETJ. Chairwoman Cindy Drabek allowed Jessica Duet, Historic Preservation Officer, to offer an explanation as to how the City will amend the Unified Development Code. Jessica explained the City will provide text language to the Planning and Zoning Commission and City Commission whereby the City Commission will ultimately recommend approval. Both the City Commission and Planning and Zoning Commission will hold public hearings on the text amendment to the Unified Development Code to fix the language on membership terms for the Richmond

Historic Commission. Hearing no other public comment the agenda item was closed.

Chairwoman Cindy Drabek introduced the agenda item A2. a presentation by Mr. Cody Frederick of Catalyst Restaurant Group. Mr. Frederick gave a presentation to the Commission on upcoming façade changes and signage to 611 Jackson Street.

Chairwoman Cindy Drabek introduced agenda item A3., review and approve minutes from April 19, 2016. The vote was four “ayes” and no “nays” for approval.

Chairwoman Cindy Drabek introduced agenda item A6., EDC updates from Executive Director Mr. Rob Tobias. Mr. Tobias updated the Richmond Historical Commission stating that the next DRC meeting was a joint meeting with the Planning and Zoning Commission and the City Commission on June 6, 2016, at 6:00 p.m., with the DRC meeting at 4:30 p.m.; the crosswalks at Fire Station No. 1 is ongoing; it is the City’s budget time of year; looking to allocate money for the wayside horn project; looking for other projects for money to involve the RHC; and hotels are still making their way through the system. A question was asked from the Commission about the 10th Street improvement project. Mr. Tobias responded that the City is still looking to the County for an interlocal agreement.

Chairwoman Cindy Drabek introduced agenda item A7., new permits in the Historic District. Mrs. Lori Bownds, Building Official, indicated there have been no new permits issued in the Historic District.

Chairwoman Cindy Drabek introduced agenda item A8., Commission Member reports. Mrs. Becky Haas reported on signs in the Historic District. Mrs. Haas stated that she has noticed new signs and prohibited signs have gone up in the Historic District and other areas in Richmond. Jessica Duet and Lori Bownds asked Mrs. Haas to please report these signs to the Fire Marshal’s Office or the Building Department. Both Jessica and Lori expressed the same concern and had noticed signs going up in areas where they are not permitted.

Mrs. Haas also discussed Historic District properties. Mrs. Haas brought up five properties that are in the Historic District which are in need of repair, boarded up, lack of roof, vandalized, or covered in natural materials. These properties included: 402 S. 4th Street, building on Calhoun behind Sandy McGee’s, the Winery, BBQ on Calhoun, and the Sunset Saloon. Mrs. Bownds stated she had spoken to the owner at 402 S. 4th Street and the property will be cleaned up and structure will be taken care of; other properties will be turned over to the Fire Marshal’s Office for further investigation.

Mr. Barry Beard gave the Commission the election results. He stated that he won the election for City Commission and was sworn in by the City Commission on May 13, 2016. Mrs. Claire Rogers reported on community and the Fort Bend Museum events. Mrs. Rogers stated that on May 17th the Fort Bend Historical Commission will have its quarterly meeting at 3:00 p.m. at the Gus George Academy on Eugene Heimann Circle. At

the Fort Bend Historical Commission meeting Denton Florian will speak about his new documentary on the life of Sam Houston. Also on May 17th the Fort Bend Archeological Society will have its monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Gus George Academy on Eugene Heimann Circle where speaker Gus Costa will talk about Mythbusting Archeology-style. On May 20th is the Movie in the Park at Wessendorff Park where the Good Dinosaur will be playing. On May 21st is Concert on the Creek in Wessendorff Park from noon to 6:00 p.m. Decker Park Day will also have a museum open house from noon to 5:00 p.m. On June 3rd and 4th are the tea parties at the Museum and on June 7th at 8:00 a.m. the Central Chamber Alliance is having their monthly Breakfast in the Bend at Memorial Herman Hospital.

Chairwoman Cindy Drabek introduced agenda item A7., Historic Preservation Officer update, Ms. Jessica Duet.

Ms. Duet gave an update on the Wayfinding Sign program stating that a public hearing will be heard at the next EDC meeting and there will be two reading at the City Commission meeting with everything wrapping up in July. At that time we will be able to have a contract with National Sign Plazas.

Ms. Duet explained to the Commission that beginning in June she will handle all the agendas and minutes for the Richmond Historical Commission. All agenda item requests should be sent to her.

Ms. Duet did not have an update on the Historic District expansion study.

Ms. Duet explained to the Commission that she is not in charge of the Buildings/Standards Committee but can work with Mr. Albert Cantu, Fire Marshal, for properties located in the Historic District and report back to them as needed.

There being no further business to be brought before the Richmond Historical Commission, Cindy Drabek motioned for the meeting to be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Approved:



Cindy Drabek, Richmond Historic Commission Chair