



Savannah - Chatham County Historic Site & Monument Commission

Arthur A. Mendonsa Hearing Room
April 6, 2017 4:00 P.M.
Meeting Minutes

APRIL 6, 2017 SAVANNAH - CHATHAM COUNTY HISTORIC SITE & MONUMENT COMMISSION

HSMC Members Present: Eli Karatassos, Chair
Thomas Gensheimer, Vice-Chair
Dr. Nicholas Henry
Ryan Madson
Kristopher Monroe

HSMC Member Not Present: Dolores Engle

MPC Staff Present: Ellen Harris, Director of Urban Planning and Historic Preservation
Sara Farr, Historic Preservation Planner
Mary E. Mitchell, Administrative Assistant

I. Call to Order and Welcome

[1. Order And Welcome](#)

Mr. Karatassos called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance. He outlined the role of the Historic Site and Monument Commission.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

[2. Approval of March 2, 2017 Meeting Minutes](#)

[☞ March 2, 2017 Minutes.pdf](#)

Motion

Approval of March 2, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Dr. Nicholas Henry

Second: Thomas Gensheimer

Thomas Gensheimer - Aye

Dr. Nicholas Henry - Aye

Eli Karatassos - Aye

Kristopher Monroe - Aye

Motion

Approval of March 2, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Dr. Nicholas Henry

Second:

Thomas Gensheimer	- Aye
Dr. Nicholas Henry	- Aye
Eli Karatassos	- Aye
Kristopher Monroe	- Aye

III. Regular Agenda

[3. Petition of Jakob von Trapp | 17-000805-PA | 2217 Bull Street | Mural](#)

📎 [Staff Recommendation.pdf](#)

📎 [Application.pdf](#)

📎 [AERIAL MAP.pdf](#)

📎 [Picture.jpg](#)

Mr. Jakob Von Trapp was present on behalf of the petition.

Ms. Sara Farr gave the staff report. The applicant is requesting after the fact approval for a mural at 2217 Bull Street. The mural was painted by a prior tenant and is a design that includes abstracts shapes as well as a house and profiles of faces.

Ms. Farr reported that staff recommends approval of the mural with the condition that a protective coating be added if one is not existing, because otherwise it meets the standards in the Master Plan and Guidelines for Markers, Monuments, and Public Art.

PETITIONER COMMENTS

Mr. Von Trapp stated that he purchased the property in 2014. A tenant approached him about putting his work over a tag. He said he informed the tenant that he was not sure they could do this. Tommy Lee took it upon himself and actually painted the mural. He has moved and this is the reason he is not present today to inform the HSMC what was his inspiration for the mural. Mr. Von Trapp said several people in the community approached him stating they believed the mural is a positive addition to their community and were hopeful that the mural could be kept there. Based on the many positive responses he received, he decided to go through the appropriate process and try to retroactively get the mural approved.

Mr. Von Trapp said he is prepared to add the protective coating as suggested by staff. He will get with staff regarding the protective coating.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION

The Commission discussed the mural. Mr. Gensheimer asked if this mural is on the lane side. Mr. Von Trapp explained that it is on 39th Street and Bull Street. Mr. Karatassos explained that this is not a lane, but Desoto Street. Dr. Henry asked what if someone wanted to white wash the building. Mr. Karatassos said this would be at the discretion of the property owner. If the owner wishes to change the mural,

he/she would have to submit another application to the HSMC to do so. The Commission discussed the purpose of the protective coating.

Motion

The Historic Site and Monument Commission does hereby approve the mural with the condition that a protective coating be added if one is not existing, because otherwise it meets the standards in the Master Plan and Guidelines for Markers, Monuments, and Public Art.

Vote Results (Approved)

Motion: Thomas Gensheimer

Second: Kristopher Monroe

Thomas Gensheimer	- Aye
Dr. Nicholas Henry	- Aye
Eli Karatassos	- Aye
Kristopher Monroe	- Aye

IV. Other Business

[4. Commissioner Items](#)

[5. Next Meeting - Thursday, May 4, 2017 at 4:00 pm in the Arthur A. Mendonsa Hearing Room, MPC, 112 E State Street](#)

V. Adjournment

[6. Adjourned](#)

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Mr. Karatassos adjourned the meeting at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ellen I. Harris, Director
Urban Planning and Historic Preservation

EIH:mem

The Chatham County - Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission provides meeting minutes which are adopted by the respective Board. Verbatim transcripts of minutes are the responsibility of the interested party.