



S A V A N N A H - C H A T H A M C O U N T Y
HISTORIC SITE & MONUMENT COMMISSION

Arthur A. Mendonsa Hearing Room
March 5, 2015 4:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

MARCH 5, 2015 HISTORIC SITE AND MONUMENT COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

HDRB Members Present: Eli Karatassos, Chair
Walt Harper, Secretary
Thomas Gensheimer
Ryan Madson
Kristopher Monroe
Giselle Rahn

MPC Staff Present: Leah Michalak, Historic Preservation Planner
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 4:05 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance. He outlined the purpose and role of the Historic Site and Monument Commission.

Ms. Michalak explained to the HSMC that Ms. Harris was not present at today's meeting due to making a presentation at City Council's meeting.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

2. [Approve January 8, 2015 Meeting Minutes](#)

Attachment: [January 8, 2015 Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

Board Action:

The Historic Site and Monument Commission does hereby approve the January 8, 2015 meeting minutes. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Walt Harper

Second: Ryan Madson

Thomas Gensheimer - Aye

Walt Harper - Aye

Eli Karatassos - Aye

Ryan Madson - Aye

Kristopher Monroe - Aye

Giselle Rahn - Aye

III. Regular Agenda

3. [Petition of Pam Miller for the Kensington Park Community Association | 15-000355-HM | Kensington Park and Groveland | Markers](#)

Attachment: [Staff Recommendation.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Submittal Packet.pdf](#)

Ms. Sara Farr gave the staff report. The petitioner is requesting to erect signs on the corner posts of the existing brick entryways into Kensington Park and place a larger sign in the median at the main entrance to Kensington Park at the corner of Oxford/Kensington and Althea.

Ms. Farr stated that six of the signs will be placed on existing brick entryways at the intersections of DeRenne Drive and Reynolds Street, DeRenne Drive and Paulsen Street, and Althea Parkway and Waters Avenue. A larger sign will be placed in the median at the main entrance to Kensington Park at the corner of Oxford/Kensington and Althea. The historic neighborhood signs will be constructed of wood with an overlay and the median sign will be constructed of sandblasted wood. The six smaller signs will be sized 24 inches by 18 inches. The median sign will be sized 24 inches by 36 inches. The smaller signs will be mounted on existing brick entryways. The signs will be oval and read either Historic Kensington Park Est. 1952 or Historic Groveland Est. 1952. They will be dark green and light brown with an image of a light green tree.

Ms. Farr said the signs will be funded by the petitioner. However, no escrow payment has been specified, but the signs are located on public property. She said that all markers, monuments and public art erected on public property become the property of the Mayor and Aldermen. Therefore, the Mayor and Aldermen assume responsibility for the future maintenance and upkeep of the marker, monument or artwork. Consequently, an initial Escrow Payment is required of the petitioner subsequent to approval of the application. The Mayor and Aldermen, or their designee, will determine the appropriate Escrow Payment and will notify the petitioner. The Escrow Payment must be paid prior to the construction/installation of the monument or public art. Any marker, monument or artwork erected on private property is the responsibility of the property owner.

Ms. Farr reported that staff recommends approval to City Council for signs on the corner of the existing brick entryways into Kensington Park and a larger sign in the median at the main entrance to Kensington Park at the corner of Oxford/Kensington and Althea with the following conditions:

1. The applicant obtains an encroachment permit;
2. An escrow payment is made prior to the install of the signs;

Because otherwise the proposed project meets the standards in the Master Plan and Guidelines for Markers, Monuments, and Public Art.

PETITIONER COMMENTS

Ms. Harris reported that when she returned to the office from City Council meeting, she received a call that Ms. Pam Miller would not be able to attend the meeting today due to an emergency.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

BOARD DISCUSSION

The Board discussion included what is the justification for the new signs as plaques are already on the brick piers. No details for the mounting of the signs were included in the application or the durability of the sign materials.

Board Action:

The Savannah Historic Site and Monument Commission does hereby continue the petition to erect signs on the corner posts of the existing brick entryways into Kensington Park and place a larger sign in the median at the main entrance to Kensington Park at the corner of Oxford/Kensington and Althea for the petitioner to address the incompleteness of the application and the following concerns:

1. Justification for the new signs due to existing plaques on the brick piers;
2. Details for the mounting of the signs;
3. The durability of the sign materials.

Vote Results

Motion: Walt Harper

Second: Thomas Gensheimer

4. [Petition of Ashley Dodd | 15-000774-PA | 204 West Victory Drive | Mural](#)

Attachment: [Staff Recommendation.pdf](#)

Attachment: [Submittal Package.pdf](#)

Ms. Ashley Dodd was present on behalf of the petition.

Ms. Sara Farr gave the staff report. The petitioner is requesting a mural at 204 West Victory Drive. The proposed mural is to be located on three facades of the building. The west and east walls are 32 feet in length and the south wall is 24 feet in length. The mural's highest will be approximately 18 feet. The building is a non-contributing building located within the Mid-City Historic District, constructed c. 1950.

Ms. Farr stated that the petitioner provided the following description regard the design: "In considering the traffic flow of Victory Drive and Barnard Street, the mural is designed for high readability from multiple angles. This is achieved using large scale, color interplay, and ample use of negative space. The flowing design helps to enhance the natural procession around the building which stems from the open lot that it sits on." The mural is located on private property and is fully-funded by the building owners.

Ms. Farr reported that staff recommends approval of the mural because it meets the standards in the Master Plan and Guidelines for Markers, Monuments, and Public Art.

PETITIONER COMMENTS

Ms. Dodd stated that the location of the studio is in an up and coming neighborhood that still maintains a bit of edginess and is full of creative culture. For example, One West Victory Drive is across the street, southeast from the building, and house a large number of SCAD students - creating somewhat a large pocket of creative, like-minded individuals who appreciate art and see the affects that visualization can have on a community. The addition of the mural brings the vision of the studio life in a way that represents the creativity and talent of our city, holds true to the history of the building itself, and breathes new life into a corner street property that for many years has been overlooked.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

Board Action:

The Historic Site and Monument Commission does hereby approve the mural for 204 West Victory Drive because it meets the standards in the Master Plan and Guidelines for Markers, Monuments, and Public Art. - PASS

Vote Results

Motion: Ryan Madson

Second: Giselle Rahn	
Thomas Gensheimer	- Aye
Walt Harper	- Aye
Eli Karatassos	- Aye
Ryan Madson	- Aye
Kristopher Monroe	- Aye
Giselle Rahn	- Aye

IV. Other Business

5. [Waving Girl Statue](#)

Mr. Harper informed the HSMC that the Waving Girl Statue problem has come up again. He explained that the Propeller Club and other organizations that deal with the port are still saying that the Waving Girl statue is not visible to the ships passing down the river. Some time ago, an eagle scout came to the Park & Tree Commission and he was allowed to cutback the under brushes and crepe myrtles. A request was later made to put the statue on a pedestal. But, putting the statue on a pedestal would not make it any larger. Park and Tree wants to do something, but what they do not know.

Mr. Harper was only bringing this as information to the HSMC. If alterations are to be done to the statue, then this would need to come before the Historic Site and Monument Commission.

V. Adjournment

6. [Adjourned](#)

There being no further business to come before the HSMC, Mr. Karatassos adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ellen Harris
Director of Urban Planning and Historic Preservation

EIH:mem

which are adopted by the respective Board. Verbatim transcripts of minutes are the responsibility of the interested party.