

City of Gulfport Florida
Historic Preservation Committee/Certified Local Government
Meeting Minutes - Wednesday, July 21, 2010

The Regular Meeting of the City of Gulfport Historic Preservation Committee was held on Wednesday, July 21, 2010, in the Gulfport Historical Museum, 5301 28th Avenue South, Gulfport, Florida.

Christopher Ross, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present were: Committee Members Carol Valdes, Cathy Culler and Deborah Frethem; Alternate Committee Member David Steinke; Vice Chairperson Mary Stull; Chairperson Christopher Ross and City Clerk Lesley DeMuth. Committee Members John Milford and Woody Matthews were not present.

Chairperson Ross introduced Community Development Director Fred Metcalf and Planner Myra Schwartz.

1. Consider approval of the Historic Preservation Committee Meeting Minutes of May 19, 2010 and June 16, 2010.

Motion by Committee Member Frethem, second by Committee Member Culler to approve the minutes.

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL BY ACCLAMATION

2. Discussion with Community Development Director Fred Metcalf on the City of Gulfport's Design Guidelines.

Community Development Director Metcalf spoke on the meetings he and City Manager O'Reilly had with Chairperson Ross. He reviewed the City's Design Guidelines which were adopted on December 7, 2004; copies of which were provided to the Committee. He suggested the Committee could work with Staff to help define the design guideline characteristics, they could continue to work on the boundaries for the Cultural Overlay District, and review the City's Historic Preservation Codes to see how they can streamline the review process because if the Committee does designate a boundary there will be a required review before the Committee.

Community Development Director Metcalf and Planner Myra Schwartz spoke on the contact they have had with the new owner of the Lincoln Cemetery and his interest in applying to the City for Local Historic Designation. He is hoping to find grant funds to help with the up-keep of the cemetery, and it would be helpful if the property had a historic designation. The cemetery has many African-American leaders and Civil War veterans buried there.

Community Development Director Metcalf provided the Committee with an Application for Designation for their approval. This will enable Staff to start the application process with this property owner. Community Development Director Metcalf spoke on the Public Hearings required before the Committee and City Council as provided by City Code.

Motion by Committee Member Frethem, second by Committee Member Valdes to approve the application form as submitted.

A discussion was held regarding the difference in this request being a voluntary application for historic designation opposed to the mandatory review and voluntary compliance in the proposed Preservation Overlay District Ordinance.

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL BY ACCLAMATION

3. Discuss Committee Membership.

The Committee discussed the term of appointment of members. The City Clerk will speak to Vice Mayor King about contacting Committee Member Milford who is her appointment on the Committee.

Chairperson Ross spoke on the availability of Committee/Board Applications at City Hall.

4. Updates:

Casino Designation: City Clerk DeMuth reported the City's Community Development Department will be resubmitting the Designation Application.

Walking Tour Brochure: It was the consensus of the Committee to discuss the walking tour brochure in the fall.

5. Any other business.

Committee Member Culler advised that she will not be at the September Meeting.

Vice Chairperson Stull asked if the Committee would be involved in the City's Birthday Celebration. Chairperson Ross thought this would be a great educational opportunity, and the Committee discussed having some kind of PR piece about the Committee available at the Birthday Bash.

6. Adjournment.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Date Approved: 9-15-10


Lesley DeMuth, City Clerk


Christopher Ross, Chairperson