

## **Historic Preservation Commission Minutes**

The Mount Airy Historic Preservation Commission held their meeting on Wednesday, July 18, 2012, at 5:30 PM in the Downstairs Conference Room of the Municipal Building.

Members Present: Glenda Creech, Barbara Oliver, Mary Fawcett, Jim Cavallo, Earlene McHone, Betty Wright

Members Absent: Steve Talley, John Collins

Staff Present: Emily Hines, Planning Director  
Jessica East, Planning Administrative Assistant

### **Call to Order**

Mary Fawcett called the meeting to order. Barbara Oliver made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2012 meeting with a second by Betty Wright. The vote was unanimous.

### **New Business**

#### **REVIEW OF TREE REMOVAL REQUEST FOR RICHARD G JOHNSON, 507 SOUTH MAIN STREET**

Emily presented a request from Mr. Johnson at 507 S Main Street. There is a diseased maple in the left front yard of his house that he would like to remove and replace with another red maple in a relative position. Michella Huff, City Landscape Supervisor went out and looked at the trees and agreed that they should be taken down. There is a lot of damage and the trees are really close to the road. In Historic guidelines, for landscaping, surviving or existing landscaping should be restored if possible and trees should be left intact when possible. Recommendations/guidelines state that damaged or diseased trees can be removed and replaced to keep with the appropriateness of the area.

Mr. Johnson was present at the meeting and was sworn in by Emily to speak. Mr. Johnson stated that he had spoken with Michella while she is out looking at his properties. Both Mr. Johnson and Michella suggested a red maple replace the tree that is being removed. Mr. Johnson stated that he was a preservationist but when a structure is in danger of being hit from a damaged or diseased tree, foliage and canopy should be considered secondary. Duke Energy had come by and lopped the trees off from the street side.

Barbra Oliver asked what size tree Mr. Johnson would be replacing the tree with. Mr. Johnson said that the requirements said at least 2" in diameter. Barbara stated that the commission hasn't been successful with people replanting trees. Glenda asked if Michella could provide notes or a statement explaining her recommendations. Through email correspondence, Michella Huff stated that the trees did indeed look damaged and needing replacing preferably with another Japanese maple. Mary asked for motion on this matter, Glenda Creech recused herself from voting due to speaking with Mr. Johnson prior to the meeting on the trees. Barbara made a motion to allow Mr. Johnson to cut down the diseased tree and replace it with another Japanese Red Maple in the vicinity of the previous according to guidelines. Earlene seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Following the discussion, Barbara Oliver made a motion that the Preservation Commission find as a fact that the proposed project to remove the tree and replace it if done according to the plans submitted on July 18, 2012 and approved by this commission on July 18, 2012 is congruous with the character of the district for the reasons that the general form and proportions, apparent features are generally in harmony with the character of the adjoining properties in the Historic District. There are conditions according to the

guidelines and a statement from Michella Huff, Landscape Supervisor making the recommendation. Based on the preceding findings of fact, a motion was made by that the Preservation Commission grant a Certificate of Appropriateness to Mr. Richard G Johnson for the removal of a tree and the replacement of it subject to the conditions. Jim Cavallo seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

#### REVIEW OF TREE REMOVAL REQUEST FOR SARICH PROPERTIES LLC, 508 SOUTH MAIN STREET

Emily presented the request to remove two dying maple trees in the front yard and not replacing due to the front yard being too small for any replacement trees. Michella looked at the trees and agreed that the yard is not big enough to replace trees back in the place of the ones removed. Mr. Johnson explained that Michella is in agreement and the trees should have never been planted there to begin with. The trees are dying and need to be cut down. For the record, Emily read a letter from an adjacent property owner, Jeff Boyles. He was in favor of Mr. Johnson being allowed to cut the trees down.

Following discussion, Jim Cavallo made a motion to approve. Betty Wright seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Barbara Oliver made a motion that the Commission find as fact that the proposed project to remove 2 trees if done according to plans submitted on July 18, 2012 and approved by this commission on July 18, 2012 is congruous with the character of the district for the reasons that the general form and proportions, apparent features are generally in harmony with the character of the adjoining properties in the Historic District. Based on the preceding findings of fact, a motion was made by that the Preservation Commission grant a Certificate of Appropriateness to Sarich Properties LLC for the removal of two trees. Jim Cavallo seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

#### Other Business

Glenda Creech mentioned the Worth-Hollingsworth house that Gene Rees informed her about. If anyone knows someone that might be interested in buying the property and receiving the credits, let Gene know.

Barbara Oliver mentioned the commission applying for its CLG status. Emily will look into it and find out more information about this process.

Emily reminded the commission about Preservation NC Conference Sept. 19-23 in Asheville. It will be decided closer to time who plans on going. If you let Emily know by August 24, you can receive cheaper rates through Early Bird Registration.

#### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m. on July 18, 2012, by a motion made by Barbara Oliver with a second by Glenda Creech. The vote was unanimous.

## **Historic Preservation Commission Minutes**

The Mount Airy Historic Preservation Commission held their meeting on Wednesday, August 15, 2012, at 5:30 PM in the Downstairs Conference Room of the Municipal Building.

Members Present: Glenda Creech, Barbara Oliver, Mary Fawcett, Earlene McHone, Shelby King, Betty Wright, John Collins

Members Absent: Jim Cavallo, Steve Talley

Staff Present: Emily Hines, Planning Director  
Jessica East, Administrative Assistant

### **Call to Order**

Mary Fawcett called the meeting to order. Glenda stated that the minutes from the previous meeting, in other business, that the name of the property she mentioned was recorded incorrectly. The name of the house should be the Worth-Hollingsworth house instead of Farnsworth. Barbara Oliver made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2012 meeting with corrections, seconded by Glenda. The vote was unanimous.

### **New Business**

#### **REVIEW OF LANDSCAPE ALTERATIONS FOR 515 S MAIN ST. & 519 S MAIN ST.**

Emily presented the request to remove trees & bushes at these properties. She asked if it was ok with the board, to do both requests at the same time. The board agreed that would be fine. The trees being requested to take down at 515 S Main St. are the following: 2 crabapple, 2 black walnut trees and a Bradford Pear. Pictures were available to show as to what was being discussed. At 519 S Main St. the request has been made to remove 2 branches 2 maple 3 Holly trees, 2 Red

Following a lengthy discussion, \_\_\_\_\_ made a motion that the Preservation Commission find as a fact that the proposed project to remove \_\_\_\_\_ if done according to the plans submitted on August 15, 2012 and approved by this commission on August 15, 2012 is congruous with the character of the district for the reasons that the general form and proportions, apparent features are generally in harmony with the character of the adjoining properties in the Historic District. Based on the preceding findings of fact, a motion was made by that the Preservation Commission grant a Certificate of Appropriateness to \_\_\_\_\_ for the removal of a tree and the replacement of it subject to the conditions. \_\_\_\_\_ seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

#### **DISCUSSION OF NC CERTIFIED LOCAL GOV'T PROGRAM**

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:31p.m. on August 15, 2012, by a motion made by Barbara Oliver with a second by Earlene McHone. The vote was unanimous.