

Minutes of the meeting of the
Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)
City of Belton
333 Water Street
Thursday, June 22, 2017

The Historic Preservation Commission met at 5:00 P.M. in the Wright Room at the Harris Community Center. The following members were present: Chair Nelson Hutchinson, Sheila Donahue, Dorothy Coppin and Tammie Baggerly. Member Leo Camden Jr. was absent. The following Staff Members were present: Director of Planning/Historic Preservation Officer, Erin Smith, Planning Clerk, Laura Livingston and Planner, Kelly Trietsch.

1. Call To Order.

Chair Hutchinson called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

2. Minutes from the previous meetings.

Ms. Donahue made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 11, 2017 meeting. Ms. Baggerly seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously with 4 ayes, 0 nays.

3. Hold a workshop and recommend approval of the Historic Preservation Plan.

Ms. Smith presented the staff report (Exhibit A).

Ms. Donahue asked if the Historic Preservation Plan is in its final draft. Ms. Smith said the reason the Commission is viewing it now is because the draft plan has been released to the public for comments, and staff will be completing revisions to the final draft soon that will incorporate the Commission's comments as well.

Ms. Donahue suggested an edit on Page 44, "verses" to "versus." In Acknowledgments, Ms. Baggerly asked if the list of Commission members could be revised to include Ms. Coppin. Ms. Smith said yes; that's a great idea. Ms. Donahue said on Page 4, when it's referencing the CHIPS Program it might be beneficial to mention the RU OK? program as well. Ms. Donahue said that if we're viewing this document to raise awareness about things that are specific and unique about Belton, the RU OK? program should be included in this document. Ms. Donahue asked why there is a reference to the Cultural Activities Center on page 9 when it is located in Temple? Ms. Baggerly said it does serve the Belton community. Ms. Donahue pointed out the CAC is not a charitable organization.

Ms. Donahue asked about the streets that are in the plans for renovations and if 6th Avenue is part of that? Ms. Smith said yes, that it is part of the City's Strategic Plan. Ms. Smith asked the Commission if they would like that added to this section? It is a major gateway the City has been focusing on and it will be much like Central Avenue.

Ms. Baggerly asked about the utilities on Penelope Street and if those utilities will be placed underground at some point? She added that she's asking because an electricity line fell down on the street today. Ms. Donahue said she lost power. Ms. Smith said the most difficult part of a project like this is getting the utilities underground. That would require review by Oncor.

Ms. Coppin said she wishes she could have curb and gutter installed along Shine Street because it is a narrow street and everyone from UMHB goes down Shine Street. The City built that new street out there thinking it would take people to Loop 121, but motorists continue to travel down Shine Street. Ms. Baggerly asked why drivers aren't taking MLK? It is probably because it's 25 mph, Ms. Baggerly said, and has 10 stop signs and some of them don't make sense, she added. Ms. Coppin said there is no speed limit sign on her street. Ms. Smith said she will speak with the City's Public Works Director regarding the need for a speed limit sign. Ms. Coppin said she was able to get one driver to slow down the other day after she screamed at him and threw up her hands to stop. To me, Ms. Coppin said, it's a racetrack from Pearl Street all the way through. Ms. Baggerly suggested speed bumps. Ms. Smith said the Fire Department prefers to not have speed bumps because it causes issues for the fire engine. Ms. Coppin said she doesn't like them either.

Ms. Donahue made a motion to approve the Historic Preservation Plan with the noted changes. Ms. Baggerly seconded the motion. The item was approved unanimously with 4 ayes, 0 nays.

4. Update the Historic Preservation Commission regarding Administrative approvals granted by the Historic Preservation Officer.

Ms. Smith updated the Commission on administrative approvals.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

Chair, Historic Preservation Commission