

# **BOARD OF HISTORIC AND ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW**

## **MINUTES**

**Citizen Services Center | Community Room**  
**3111 Citizens Way Columbus, GA**  
**April 13, 2023 | 3:30 PM**

### **I. CALL TO ORDER / ESTABLISH QUORUM**

The meeting was called to order with the following attendance:

**Board Members Present:** Tyler Pritchard, Emily Flournoy, Alex Griggs, Mollie Smith (Chair), Jen Lamb, Toney Johnson, Fran Carpenter, Sean Spencer and Libby Smith

**Board Members Absent:** [Vacant Board Seat], Jack Hayes

**Staff Present:** Rex Wilkinson and Claire Mitchell (CCG), Allison Slocum (RVRC)

### **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND STAFF REPORT**

Alex Griggs moved to approve the staff report. Toney Johnson noted a mistake on a version of the staff report regarding 605 Broadway that was issued to board members prior to the meeting; Emily Flournoy moved to second the approval of the minutes while noting the mistake and correction mentioned by Toney Johnson.

The board took no action regarding the prior months minutes.

### **III. NEW CASES:**

1. **1807 17<sup>th</sup> St:** Girl Scouts, applicant, intends to construct a room and porch addition

Allison Slocum read the staff report and the applicant presented their case. The board discussed the siding materials proposed in the application and inquired with the applicant as to the original materials in use on the property; the applicant stated vinyl is in use on the original property. The board noted the importance of distinguishing new construction from original.

Alex Griggs moved to approve the application with the amendment that fiber-cement material siding with a vertical decorative element be used in lieu of vinyl; Fran Carpenter seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

2. **605 Broadway:** Toney Johnson, applicant, intends to replace existing roof with architectural shingle roof.

Toney Johnson recused himself from hearing this case as he is the applicant. Allison Slocum read the staff report and the applicant presented their case.

The board and the applicant discussed the condition of the existing roof and prior treatments used to ameliorate leakage issues; the applicant stated they have used 3 coats of a roll on treatment. The board also discussed the availability of shingles that match the existing roof; they are very expensive but could be procured.

Alex Griggs moved to approve the application noting the board has approved similar roof changes in the past; Jen Lamb seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **IV. RETURNING CASES**

1. *604 and 6082<sup>nd</sup> Ave: Sia Etemadi, applicant, presented updated drawings regarding a modification to an existing COA; the applicant was required to make a minor modification at the direction of Inspections and Code for safety reasons. This item did not appear on the agenda as issued for the April 2023 meeting.*

Alex Griggs moved to approve the railing as submitted and Jen Lamb seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

#### **V. TABLED CASES**

NONE

## **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Receive updates on referred properties**

Staff updated the board on properties referred at the previous meeting and/or via email since the meeting.

### **2. Board discussion on application review procedures**

The board discussed the notification received regarding the demolition of properties surrounding the Ma Rainey House by the city earlier in April. Rex Wilkinson, staff, stated he received less than 48 hours notice before the properties were demolished; The board emphasized a need for timely notification for all proposed work that affects cultural resources. The board discussed the timeline of the demolition of the houses surrounding the Ma Rainey House and requested staff share the notification as received by staff; staff indicated they would share that notification.

Board members also requested additional information from staff regarding the exemption of city owned properties from board review; staff indicated this has long been how the city and board has operated but would reach out to the city attorney for clarification if requested.

Board members indicated dissatisfaction with enforcement and surveillance in our historic district as well as a perceived lack of communication from city personnel regarding the demolition of the two properties surrounding the Ma Rainey House.

Board members emphasized the importance of staff making all information available in a timely, consistent manner to allow for review prior to the meeting.

Board members also requested a called meeting in the future to address housekeeping/logistical concerns due to the time constraints in the regularly scheduled meeting. The chair requested that staff set up a called meeting for April 24<sup>th</sup>.

3. Refer properties for inspections and code

Board members referred the following properties:

**2903 10<sup>th</sup> Ave:** “Green Monster” continues to decay

**2908 Beacon Ave:** chimney falling apart and roof in bad shape

**2906 10<sup>th</sup> Ave:** porch and columns appear to be failing

**828 1<sup>st</sup> Ave:** Houses in area are in general disrepair

**1601 Broadway:** window broken and does not appear secure

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The chair adjourned the meeting at 5:00 PM