

**Minutes of the
New Bern Historic Preservation Commission
January 16, 2013 (Approved 2/20/13)**

The New Bern Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) held a special called meeting on Wednesday, January 16, 2013, in the second floor courtroom of City Hall, 300 Pollock Street.

Members Present: Nancy Gray
Peggy Broadway
Peter Adolph
Rich Frye
Tim Thompson, Vice Chair
Mickey Miller
Richard Parsons
Jan Giordano

Members Excused (E)/Absent (A): NONE

Staff Present: Kevin Robinson, AICP, City Planner
Bernard George, AICP, Planning Division Manager
Leigh Anne Friesen, AICP, Volunteer

The meeting was opened and roll call was taken. A quorum was present. Witnesses were sworn in. They included Steve Wynne, Nancy Hollows and others. Commissioner Adolph moved, and Commissioner Giordano seconded that the reading of the December 12th minutes be waived. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Giordano moved, and Commissioner Adolph seconded, that the minutes be approved as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

1. Consider a Certificate of Appropriateness application for 239 Middle Street (Applicant Steve Wynne) for the installation of a monument on Pollock Street.

Staff Comments: Staff Kevin Robinson reviewed and briefed the project. He then reviewed the Staff Recommendations. Later in the meeting, Staff Bernard George asserted that despite the absent Project Description, the application should be able to be heard since it has been to Design Review, it is a simple request, and the additional information is sufficient.

Applicant Comments: Applicant Steve Wynne brought the plot plan for the proposed monument location. He said he didn't realize he needed to write in a project description on the application. He described the project.

Public Comments: *Nancy Hollows*, 4438 Rivershore Drive, asked the Commission to give the applicant a break on the absence of a completed project description and to let him complete it now. She believes the project to be appropriate and congruous.

Discussion by the Commission: The Commissioners discussed issues including the fact that the project description isn't present on the application, the need to table the application due to an incomplete application, whether or not the public will be harmed by hearing the application, the

need to hold to procedure, the desire not to set a precedent, the call to be sensible and not hold up the application, the location of the monument, the need for the monument to be more clearly marked with description and/or text, the need for the application to have a written description on the application form, the need for planting and footings information, the adequacy of the proposed footing, the color of the marble, the engraving style and color, the lack of purview the Commission has over color and style of monuments (only over placement).

Finding(s) of Fact: Commissioner Thompson moved to hear the application based on the information presented, seconded by Commissioner Broadway. The motion passed unanimously. After further discussion, Commissioner Miller moved to find the application congruous with the Historic Preservation Guidelines, citing Section 15-427 Certificate of Appropriateness required; Section 15-429 Review Criteria, citing the following guidelines:

“Site and Setting, pages 77-89, guideline#12; “Parks and Public Spaces”, page 81, guideline(s)#1-3. Commissioner Broadway seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Statement(s) of Reason: (1) Art is encouraged in public and private areas, within the Historic Districts. Suitability of location is at the discretion of the Commission and (2) The location of the new monument will be out of the public right-of-way on private property and should be of no detriment to the views of the streetscape.

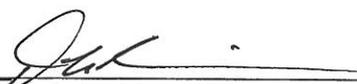
Condition(s): NONE

Motion: Commissioner Broadway moved to issue the COA, seconded by Commissioner Thompson. All Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.



Rich Frye, Chairman



Kevin Robinson, AICP
City Planner