

**Fairhope Historic Preservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 8, 2025
Fairhope Museum of History
24 N Section Street, Fairhope Alabama 36532**

Members In Attendance: Gary Gover, Mara Kozelsky-Hunter, Dannie Mixon, Amy Molyneux, Susan Stein, Skip Jones, Ginger Golson, and Erik Cortinas. Jay Robinson was absent. Cynthia A Boothe took the minutes.

Call to Order: Mara Kozelsky-Hunter called the meeting to order at 3:30pm.

Approve Minutes: The Minutes of the December 11, 2024 meeting were considered and approved with a motion by Skip Jones, second by Amy Molyneux and unanimously passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Vote on Bylaws: Mara stated that all members had received copies of amended bylaws with a minor change suggested by City Clerk Lisa Hanks. After Mara asked if everyone was ready to pass the amended Bylaws a motion was made by Skip Jones to approve the bylaws as amended, second by Ginger Golson and unanimously passed.

Vote on Officers: Mara stated that the floor was open for nominations for Chair and Vice Chair. Skip Jones nominated Mara Kozelsky-Hunter as Chair, second by Amy Molyneux and unanimously passed. Mara Kozelsky-Hunter nominated Amy Molyneux as Vice Chair, second by Skip Jones and unanimously passed.

Follow up: City Application for CLG: Mara reported that the approved CLG Application and Letter was sent to Paige Thomas with the Alabama Historic Commission by Jenny Wilson. She stated that it will be about two and one-half months for the application to go through the State and Federal Approvals if it does not have to come back to the Historic Preservation Commission for revisions.

NEW BUSINESS

Demolition Review Programs: Mara stated that she had forwarded three samples of the programs, and that the Mayor supports a thoughtful approach to demolition.

Erik Cortinas stated that he would go over what the legal requirements will be. He stated that the Commission would draft guidelines as to what the process would be, from the submittal, to the receipt, to the evaluation of the demolition permit. The guidelines could then either be presented to the City Council as a resolution, or the guidelines could be adopted as part of the new building code adoption which will be between June and September 2025. That is the process if the commission wants the guidelines to be mandatory and legally enforced.

Mara stated that the demolition review is to put a pause on the demolition until the owner can come before the commission to hear options for ways to save the building. It will not stop the demolition but would be a way to provide an opportunity to educate the owner.

Skip Jones stated that he feels that the guidelines should include that the property be posted, and a public meeting held for public comment.

After a group discussion, Mara stated that she would create a document that all commission members will be able to add their comments about what should be included in the guidelines. The commission will then work with Erik Cortinas to organize and revise the final guidelines for approval.

OTHER

There was a discussion that a historic plaque might be placed at the Fairhope Hardware site that would give a history of the businesses that were there in the past.

Skip Jones made a motion that someone from the commission approach the developers of the Fairhope Hardware site about displaying an historic plaque

on the new building that will be constructed there, a second was made by Amy Molyneux and it unanimously passed.

Skip Jones stated that he would be glad to approach the developer about the plaque.

Skip made a motion to adjourn, second by Amy Molyneux and unanimously passed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:24pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Cynthia A Boothe
Building Department
City of Fairhope