

HERITAGE PRESERVATION, INC.
Minutes of Meeting, 11-27-2017

Those present: Chuck Hyde, Brett Wood, Lee Freeman, Mary Peck, Wayne Williams, Hester Cope, Dick Jordan, Billy Warren

1. It was noted that the third sentence in item #3 of the minutes of the 10-23-2017 meeting should have said this: "If funds permit, there is a possibility that streetscaping will also be added from East Tennessee Street at Cherry Street to East College Street and from that point on East College Street to South Poplar Street." With that correction, Wayne Williams made the motion that the minutes be approved. Brett Wood seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
2. Billy Warren presented this financial report:

a. Checking Account Balance	\$1,162.44
b. Forks of Cypress Account Balance	\$3,234.78

Chuck Hyde made the motion that the report be approved. Hester Cope seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

3. Dick Jordan made this report regarding the City of Florence's projects:
 - a. The streetscape expansion is moving forward. It will extend from its current terminus at the intersection of East Tennessee and Poplar Streets to the intersection of East Tennessee Street and Dr. Hicks Boulevard. If funds permit, the expansion will also include the extension described in item #1 above.
 - b. The new Indian Mound Museum, with Calvin Durham as the lead architect, has received an award from the Alabama division of the American Institute of Architects.
 - c. The W.C. Handy Home and Museum is being deeded to the W.C. Handy Foundation, with a provision that, should the need arise in the future, both the home and museum will revert to the City of Florence. Being associated with the Foundation will give the home and museum national exposure.
4. Billy Warren reported that sealed bids were opened on Thursday, November 23, for the sale of the historic house at 629 North Wood Avenue. Details are being resolved between the apparent high bidder and the owner of the house (the University of North Alabama).
5. Billy Warren reported that restoration work by new owners is slated to begin on the beautiful Victorian house at 618 North Wood Avenue (the home of the late Camilla and Alexander Donelson Coffee).
6. Chuck Hyde reported that there are still changes to the exterior of some historic houses and buildings being done without the owners first applying for approval from the Florence Historical Board. In the ensuing discussion, Chuck and his fellow members of the Historical Board were complimented for their proactive work. It was then noted that everyone involved in historic preservation (including HPI) needs to help "spread the word" that such prior approvals for exterior changes must be obtained. With such a joint effort, the community at-large will be fully informed over time.

7. Lee Freeman reported that the Lauderdale County Cemetery Rehabilitation Authority (LCCRA) will probably work on the Hough family cemetery near Bailey Springs on or near December 1.
8. Dick Jordan noted that the large commercial building at the intersection of Hermitage Drive and North Court Street is undergoing significant restoration. Everyone present at today's meeting applauded the project because it is yet another major restoration of a building in our beautiful downtown.
9. Lee Freeman distributed copies of the November, 2017, issue of *Kidsville News*.
10. Billy Warren distributed copies of these handouts:
 - a. "Motel Americana: History of the Motel" – which Angela Voigt provided
 - b. Research on the bell at First Christian Church on North Wood Avenue by Terry McGee
11. Billy Warren distributed copies of an article entitled "Tiffin Motorhomes Founder Will Be Honored with RVDA Titan Award." Billy stated that Judy and Bob Tiffin received this prestigious national award in Louisville, Kentucky, in late November.

Members of the Board of Directors of Heritage Preservation, Inc. offer sincere congratulations to fellow Board member, Judy, and her husband, Bob!

12. In separate discussions, Billy Warren agreed to:
 - a. Check the website of the City of Florence to see if these guidelines are posted:
 - (1) Proposed changes to the exterior of residential properties that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and
 - (2) Proposed changes to the exterior of commercial properties that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
 - b. Research the proposed tax reform bill currently before Congress to see if it removes the 20% tax credit for the preservation/restoration of income-producing properties that are located in historic districts.
13. Lee Freeman reported that he made a presentation on behalf of HPI at the ceremony on Sunday afternoon, November 12, in Sheffield's Oakwood Cemetery. The ceremony was held to commemorate veterans of World War I who lived in Colbert, Franklin and Lauderdale Counties and to honor the 101 people buried in the cemetery who had helped to build the local nitrate plants. Lee reminded everyone that HPI contributed \$100.00 toward the purchase of the monument placed in the cemetery in memory of all of these people.

Billy Warren thanked Lee for sending him the video of the presentation. Billy then stated that he will send the video via email to all HPI Board members.
14. There was a discussion regarding the possible venue for HPI's annual meeting which is scheduled for **SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2018, at 2:00 P.M.** Dick Jordan volunteered to contact the owners of one or more of the venues that were suggested. A decision will be made at the next meeting of the HPI Board – which will be held on Monday, December 18.

15. Billy Warren distributed copies of the document that lists all 71 people to whom HPI has given the Capital Award over the years. He asked everyone to look over the list and be ready to make nominations at our next meeting on Monday, December 18.