



Gaithersburg

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**CITY OF GAITHERSBURG
MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 3, 2009
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING**

A meeting of the Historic District Commission was called to order at 8:15 p.m., Chair Katz presiding. Commissioners present: Ashman, Drzyzgula, Marraffa, Sesma and Spiegel. Staff present: City Manager Jones, Planning and Code Director Ossont, Planner Voigt, City Attorney Board and Municipal Clerk Stokes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Commissioner Ashman, seconded by Commissioner Sesma that the minutes of a Historic District Commission meeting held June 1, 2009, be approved.

Vote: 5-0-1 (Abstained: Marraffa)

CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL

A. HAWP-106B, Observatory Park, 100 DeSellum Avenue, Request: Installation of City Park Sign

Motion was made by Historic District Commissioner Marraffa, seconded by Commissioner Spiegel, that the Historic District Commission grant approval of HAWP-106B and issue the Certificate of Approval finding, based on the record before HPAC and for the reasons articulated by HPAC, that the application meets the Secretary of Interior Standard's 10.

Vote: 6-0

POLICY DISCUSSION

A. Demolition Request for 11 and 13 DeSellum Avenue and 206 South Frederick Avenue (Addition Only)

Planner Voigt stated the applicant revised the application requested and is now proposing to demolish 11 and 13 DeSellum Avenue and relocate the original 206 South Frederick Avenue structure (office addition only) to the 13 DeSellum location. On April 20, the Historic Preservation Advisory Committee (HPAC) visited the site (both interior and exterior) and on May 7, 2009, HPAC held a review for the purpose of making a recommendation on the historic significance of the structures to the Historic District Commission.

A joint public hearing before the Mayor and Council and Planning Commission on the original concept plan was held in April 2009.

City Council Member Drzyzgula, former HPAC member, informed the public of the various bodies involved in the historic application process for considering designation of a property which state law provides specific criteria to follow.

The Commission expressed their concerns such as the process, lack of revenue information, and the economic hardship for significant structural defective and deteriorating structures. Staff was directed to review the City's entire process for the designation of historic structures. It was stated that the applicant had made a strong good faith effort and compromise for the proposed development.

Motion was made by Historic District Commissioner Marraffa, seconded by Commissioner Ashman, that the Historic District Commission directs the City Manager to grant three demolition permits for 11 DeSillum Avenue, 13 DeSillum Avenue, and the office addition on 206 South Frederick Avenue. In addition, the Commission urged the owner to make available any architectural parts to interested entities.

Vote: 5-1 (Opposed: Drzyzgula)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Historic District Commission, the meeting was duly adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Doris Stokes
Municipal Clerk