

City of Shelbyville Historic District Commission

315 Washington Street
Shelbyville, KY 40065

HDC Meeting Minutes

February 14, 2023

Call to Order: 5:36 p.m.

Approval of November 8, 2022 Minutes:
Approved

Motion: M.J. Yates

Second: C. Johnson

Members:

Present

Guests Present:

Deborah Magan

Stephen Collins

Rachel Wells

Tom McGinnis (Chair)

Jim Henson

Mary Jane Yates

Collin Johnson

Trace Kirkwood (HDC)

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Darlene Snow, Director
Shelby Main Street

Old Business:

Historic District Coordinator updated the Commission on the status of the Façade Improvement grant from the National Main Street Foundation. Dillon and Lauren Leonard are in the process of purchasing the building at 537 Main Street. They have to make extensive renovations to the façade of the building, including securing it to the side/structural walls. The Leonards have completed an application for the grant funds, and it is under review by National Main Street.

The coordinator had an on-line meeting with Bethany Rogers from National Main Street to verify the amount of funds remaining for Shelbyville. There is approximately \$16,000 remaining, and it will be used to offset the Leonards' cost for restoring the façade at 537 Main Street. There is a possibility that National Main Street can grant as much as \$25,000 for the Leonards' project. That will be determined later.

New Business:

726 Main Street: Darlene Snow, Director of Shelby Main Street, presented the Commission with three (3) letters of complaint on the structure at 726 Main Street. In her statement, she stressed that the

location of the building is the first building people see as they enter Shelbyville's downtown. She noted that the building is a safety concern for pedestrians.

Coordinator reviewed the action that the HDC and the City of Shelbyville has taken to encourage the property owner to improve the lot and make the necessary repairs to the structure at 726 Main Street. There has been no improvements to the building, and it is worse shape than it was in 2016 when the HDC issued a stop work order on the property because of substandard craftsmanship for repairs being made to the building.

Coordinator explained that Mayor Ethington has renewed an effort to reach out to the property owner to encourage making the necessary repairs to the entire structure.

Coordinator explained that Chapter 72 of the City of Shelbyville Code allows the HDC to levy fines on the property owner, but the Commission decided that such action would be counter-productive. Commission agreed to work with the Mayor on encouraging either repairs to the building or it being sold.

The Commission made no motion to act at this meeting.

Other Business:

Chairman McGinnis asked the Commission to consider better ways to improve the visibility of the Historic District Commission in the community.

Suggestions included:

Update HDC brochure and publicize the City's Matching Funds Program.

Mass mail the updated brochure to every address in the Historic District.

Be pro-active in approaching building and home owners to make repairs to home using Matching Funds.

Re-start the HDC Preservation Award and host the awards banquet.

Publicize activities of the HDC in media outlets and on social media.

Commissioner Wells suggested that commissioners and coordinator spend a Saturday walking through the district and talk to people working in their yards.

Adjourn: Motion: T. McGinnis Seconded: C. Johnson
Time: 6:45 p.m.

Approved