

MINUTES

Pine Bluff Historic District Commission Meeting

July 15, 2011

3:00 P.M.

The Pine Bluff Historic District Commission met on Friday, July 15, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers Conference Room.

The meeting was called to order by Acting Chairman, Commissioner Darnell Hawkins.

Roll Call: There were five (5) Commissioners present: Commissioners Marlene Davis-Lily, Dave Sadler, Vivian Flowers, Jack Stradley and Darnell Hawkins. Others present were: Robert Tucker, Norma Payne, Janice Lusk, Amy Widner and Brittany Hoover (both from the Pine Bluff Commercial).

Minutes: The Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Commissioner Dave Sadler to approve Minutes from June 17, 2011 meeting. The motion was second by Commissioner Marlene Davis-Lily. Motion approved.

Financial Report: Robert Tucker reported the Commission's balance on hand was \$4,320.90. An \$80.00 deduction was made to the National Historic Preservation.

Old Business

- Boone Murphy House Update. The Boone Murphy House Project is near completion as reported by Robert Tucker. Mr. Tucker indicated that advertising for bids for the second phase of work on the project will begin within the next two to three weeks. After Phase II, the commission plans to improve the grounds at the site to include an outdoor plaza type meeting space, landscaping, fencing and other improvements. Mr. Tucker estimated the work will cost about \$5,000 to \$8,000.
- Commercial Historic District
 - Jeff Shriver with the Street Department has completed a legal description of district for inclusion to City Council ordinance.
 - Draft of ordinance will be prepared By Robert Tucker with Alderwoman Irene Holcomb being the sponsor.
 - Mailing labels have been prepared by Janice Lusk for mail outs to historic district property owners.
 - Historic District Commission will advertise for a public hearing at the August meeting in order that the public can comment on the proposal. After the public hearing in August, the proposed ordinance will have 60 days to make it through the City Council. If the proposal is approved, the

commission can set the guidelines for any proposed changes to the structures downtown that they remain historically appropriate.

- Grant funds reprogramming for Boone Murphy approved by AHPP.

New Business

- The commission discussed ways for public awareness of the historic district. Some suggestions made were:
 - Having a table or booth set up at the annual Business Expo with information available.
 - Implementing a Facebook Page with information available for review.
 - Visiting other historic places to get ideas on how they are operating.
- The commission welcomed Commissioner Jack Stradley to the HDC. He is the executive director of Old Towne Theatre Center Inc., a nonprofit that raises funds to restore the historical Saenger Theatre in the downtown area. Commissioner Stradley indicated the cost to repair the building's leaky roof would be \$150,000 and about \$5 million to restore the building.
- The commission congratulated Robert Tucker on the Grand Opening of the Barraque Street Plaza.

No further discussion a motion was made to adjourn.