

Toccoa Historic Preservation Committee (HPC)
Regular Meeting
Thursday, December 2, 2021

The HPC held a regular meeting on Thursday, December 2, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Commission Room of City Hall. Chairman Thurston Estes called the regular meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. The following were in attendance: Chairman Thurston Estes, Vice-Chair Susan Turner, Commissioner Gary Cortellino, City Commission Liaison Terry Carter, Mrs. Connie Tabor, and Mr. Christian Hamilton. Ms. Iris Robles and Mrs. Naomi Haney were also present. Commissioner Victor Cuvo, Commissioner Debbie Allen, and Historic Preservation Consultant Joe Rothwell were absent.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Cortellino and seconded by Vice-Chairman Turner, the December 2, 2021 Regular Meeting Agenda was unanimously approved. No items were added to the agenda. Upon a motion made by Commissioner Cortellino and seconded by Vice-Chairman Turner, the November 4, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved.

Reports

- a) **Volunteer Breakfast.** Mrs. Tabor reported that there would be a volunteer appreciation breakfast on Friday, December 17, 2021 at X-Factor Grill at 8am. She notified the HPC that they were invited.
- b) **Christmas Decorations.** Commissioner Cortellino commended Vice-Chairman Turner and the rest of the Christmas Decorations Committee for their excellent work in decorating Downtown Toccoa for the holiday season.

I. Unfinished Business

- A. N/A

II. New Business

- A. **Toccoa Nutrition for Property located at 25 Doyle Street. Request: Signage.** Mrs. Tabor read the COA project description and stated that Ms. Iris Robles is requesting to retain a premium scrim matte vinyl 4'x8' banner at 25 Doyle Street above the storefront. She notified commissioners that a picture of the signage was in their packets. Mrs. Tabor reminded commissioners that banners are considered temporary signage in the sign ordinance and are only allowed up for 30 days in a six-month period. Ms. Robles stated that she did not realize she had to get reapproval for signage at the location, since the first sign was approved. Commissioner Cortellino stated that he liked the first sign that was originally approved and that the new signage should replicate it. He also stated that there were concerns about location and placement, despite the vinyl being of good quality. Vice-Chairman Turner stated that, in the Historic District, signs should be located within the signboard or within the framework of the upper transom. Chairman Estes suggested that the temporary signage could remain up until approval of a new sign. Commission Liaison Carter added that vinyl was not an appropriate material for permanent fixture signage and that the approved signage would need to be of another material. Commissioner Cortellino asked Ms. Robles why she took down the original sign, and Ms. Robles stated that it was placed on the street for repair and later stolen. Commissioner Cortellino expressed his sympathy at this statement. With this, Vice-Chairman Turner motioned to deny the COA request. Commissioner Cortellino seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. Mrs. Tabor explained to Ms. Robles that she would need to resubmit a design rendering of the new signage to the HPC for approval at their January 6, 2022 meeting, which she would need to attend. She also reminded Ms. Robles that the material could not be vinyl.
- B. **Longevity Barre for Property located at 147 North Pond Street. Request: Signage.** Mrs. Tabor read the COA project description and stated that Mrs. Naomi Haney is requesting to install vinyl lettering on both windows at 147 North Pond Street. She directed commissioners to the pictures in their packets. Mrs. Haney stated that the signage would just be on the glass, to which Vice-Chairman Turner stated that it looked nice and appropriate for the district. She emphasized that vinyl lettering is appropriate on windows and is in compliance with code. With this, Commissioner Cortellino motioned that the COA request be approved. This was seconded by Vice-Chairman Turner and passed unanimously. Mrs. Tabor stated to Mrs. Haney that the next step would be to come into the office for a sign permit.

III. Public Comments

- A. **Recognition of Visitors Wishing to Speak on General Items (Limit 3 Minutes).** No comments were provided.

There being no further business, upon a motion made by Vice-Chairman Turner and seconded by Commissioner Cortellino, the regular Historic Preservation Commission meeting was adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

Chairman, Thurston Estes

Connie Tabor, Recording Secretary