

**VAN BUREN HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 8, 2005**

The Van Buren Historic District Committee held their monthly meeting Thursday, September 8, 2005 at 5:30 P.M. in the City Council Room of the Van Buren Municipal Complex.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dwight Hopkins, Chairman
 John Symonds, Vice-Chairman
 Vickie Davis
 Roy Hebard
 Paul Gibson

OTHERS PRESENT: Cami Brown, Recording Secretary
 Richard Hodo, property owner

The following items were on the agenda:

1. Approval of minutes from the last meeting
2. COA for 615 ½ Main Street, Auston Butler
3. COA for 409 Main Street, Crawford County Sheriff Dept.
4. COA for 703 Main Street Parking Lot, Richard Hodo
5. Any other business that comes before the Committee

Chairman Dwight Hopkins called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. Richard Hodo was the only representative present for the COA's listed on the agenda, so the Committee reviewed the COA for 703 Main Street. After some discussion, John Symonds made a motion that the change would not affect the surrounding property, with Roy Hebard seconding the motion and the motion carried a unanimous vote. Roy Hebard then made a motion to approve the COA, with Paul Gibson seconding the motion, and this motion carried a unanimous vote.

The next item up was the approval of the minutes from the last meeting held. John Symonds made a motion to approve, Paul Gibson seconded the motion, and the motion carried with a unanimous vote.

The next item discussed were the remaining COA's that had no representation. The committee went ahead and discussed the signs for the COA for the Crawford County Sheriff's Dept. Dwight Hopkins commented he would let the Sheriff Allen know that no one showed up for the meeting, and that the COA would be put on the agenda again next month. The Commission also had a concern about the shade of red on the COA for signage submitted from The Toy Soldier, and recording secretary Cami Brown agreed to contact the owner and make sure they were considering shades of red in compliance with the color charts for the Historic District.

Under other business, Dwight Hopkins commented that Rafael Acostas, Giclee Studio, 627 Main Street, Van Buren, Arkansas, has offered his services to any merchant on Main Street that is interested in having him do design work for their business. Anyone interested in this can then take these designs to someone else to draft the work, or may wish to us Mr. Acostas. Rafael Acostas is offering this service to help people who are just starting out in business on Main Street.

Another issue addressed was the end of the CLG Grant records for 2004, which had been taken care of by Maryl Koeth, A & P Commission. Maryl's services were strictly voluntary, and the Historic District was very fortunate to have her services. The Commission decided to do an acknowledgement for Maryl Koeth for her services, to be decided at a later date.

Next item mentioned was a recent storm in Van Buren that downed a tree limb in the Fairview Cemetery. This caused major damage to a monument that dates back to the 1800's, and was a memorial to three children of one of the first families to homestead in the State of Arkansas, just shortly after it was founded. Although the Fairview Cemetery is not actually in the Historic District, but we are affiliated with the CLG, this makes it possible for HDC to help. The amount of \$1,200.00 has been earmarked to help assess the damage to this monument, as well as assess the Fairview Cemetery for the future of the Cemetery and its preservation. Details on this will be reviewed at a later date.

With no other business before the Commission, this meeting was adjourned.

Dwight Hopkins, Chairman

Cami L. Brown, Recording Secretary