

**VAN BUREN HISTORIC DISTRICT
PUBLIC HEARING
FEBRUARY 22, 2005**

The Van Buren Historic District held a Public Hearing Tuesday, February 22, 2005 at 6:00 P.M. at the Van Buren Municipal Complex in the City Council Room. The hearing was to discuss and review the proposed design guidelines for Historic Downtown Van Buren.

Chairman John Symonds called the hearing to order and then introduced himself along with the remainder of the Committee. He went on the state that the first part of this meeting is based upon the first Public Hearing of last week, February 15, 2005. Sandra Taylor Smith, consultant to the Historic District, made the revisions that were a result of that previous hearing, and each Committee member was given a copy of the revisions, which the Committee would review at this time. Mr. Symonds stated for the record, he would read each revision if the Committee agreed to this. All Committee members agreed. The revisions were as follows:

Based upon the first Public Hearing of the Design Guidelines for the Historic District on February 15, 2005, the following changes were recommended at that meeting:

1. Page "i", remove Main Street from the Credit sheet.
2. Page "iii" add appendix "D", Arkansas Historic District Acts, and add Appendix "E" Arkansas Van Buren Ordinance 7-1977 and amendment 2-1998. Also to be added is Ordinance 5-1980 which is an amendment of Ordinance 1963.
3. Page 2, paragraph 4, guidelines should be reviewed three years from the day of adoption and every three years thereafter.
4. Page 7, first sentence of last paragraph to read, "This is a Local Ordinance Historic District".
5. Page 8, first paragraph, add 7-1977 Ordinance, add 5-1980 Ordinance. Third paragraph, add Building Inspector's Office phone (479) 474-8943. Last paragraph add COA is good up to six (6) months after issuance.
6. Page 11, 5.2 add see color chart at the Building Inspector's Office.
7. Page 12, 5.3 define ordinary maintenance. Ordinary maintenance includes painting, repair or replacement of damaged materials with same materials and colors. 5.5 add 7-1977 and 5-1980 to this paragraph.
8. Page 30, 10.6 add "J", concrete masonry unit should not be finished surface.
9. Page 33, 10.12 "B", Page 35, 10.16 "C" and "E", Page 38, 10.21 "G", Page 39, 10.29 "C", replace the word "shall" with the word "should".
10. Page 42, 10.28 change "Main Street Van Buren" to "Building Inspector".
11. Page 47, paragraph 12.1 "B" insert the word should.
12. Page 60, add structural glass to glossary.

With no other old business, John Symonds opened up the floor for new business. Dave Fant, business owner, wanted clarification on what is and is not acceptable as far as signs in business windows, inside and outside. Martin Duckworth stated that anything that is a sign that identifies the business has to meet the criteria of the design guidelines, whether inside the glass or outside the glass of a business. Mr. Duckworth also stated that the Committee struggle with this issue all the time.

Cameron Mitchell had some questions about working on his property on Main Street. Martin Duckworth stated that when doing this work, Mr. Mitchell needs to be sure and take into consideration the age of the bricks, and that working with that type of brick is different than bricks produced today. Mr. Duckworth stated that there are people on the state level that the Committee can put Mr. Mitchell in touch with when he is ready, and they can help him.

Mr. Symonds reminded everyone that the guidelines were hopefully going to be more informative, and user friendly for the owners of property downtown as well as the Committee. Mr. Symonds stated that these design guidelines have not yet been adopted, and once again asked the public if they had any suggestions or comments. There was no response.

Mr. Symonds then asked the Committee to approve the minutes from the first Public Hearing held February 15, 2005. A motions was made by Larry Weir to approve, Martin Duckworth seconded this motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Mr. Symonds stated the changes to the Guidelines would be given to Sandra Taylor Smith, and then asked if there was any other business from the public or the Committee. With no response, Mr. Duckworth made a motion to adjourn, motion was seconded by Ralph Irwin, and motion carried with a unanimous vote.

John Symonds, Chairman

Cami L. Brown, Recording Secretary