

# **HISTORIC DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES**

## **APRIL 10, 2008**

The Van Buren Historic District Commission held its monthly meeting Thursday, April 10, 2008 at 5:30 P.M. in the City Council Room at the Municipal Complex. The following items were on the agenda:

1. Approval of minutes from last meeting
2. Consideration for Certificate of Appropriateness for awnings Located at #10 South 7<sup>th</sup> Street by Jim Marshall.
3. Any other business that comes before the Commission

PRESENT: Dwight Hopkins, Chairman  
John Symonds, Co-Chairman  
Jody Rhoads  
Vickie Davis  
Paul Gibson  
Cami Brown, Rec. Secretary  
Jim Marshall

First item for consideration was approval of minutes from last meeting. John Symonds made a motion to approve the minutes as written, and the motion was given a second by Paul Gibson. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

The next item for consideration was COA for awnings at 10 South 7<sup>th</sup> Street for Jim's Barber Shop. John Symonds made a motion this COA does not significantly affect the surrounding property. This motion was given a second by Jody Rhoads, and the motion carried a unanimous vote. After some discussion about lighting, a motion was made by Jody Rhoads to approve this COA with the application amended to no longer include lights or provision for lighting, with owner consent duly noted on COA. This motion was given a second by Paul Gibson, and the motion carried with a unanimous vote.

At this time Chairman Hopkins commented that Commissioners going to National Forum had in front of them the papers for the itinerary for this trip, and that each person attending would need to look over and decide what areas they would like to attend, and get this turned in to Cami Brown as soon as possible, so registration for this could be completed.

At this time, Paul Gibson commented on the new COA forms. He asked when they were approved, and the form was approved in February 2008. Mr. Gibson commented he does not like the Certificate of Appropriateness and he feels that it is going to come back and “bite” the Commission, because the Commission is the one that always gets blamed for things. Mr. Hopkins commented the thing that keeps that from happening is any decision made by the Commission can be appealed, so it is not a final decision, and anyone coming in front of the Commission can ask for another review. Mr. Gibson commented again he was against the new COA form. Mr. Hopkins commented that existing situations before the new ordinance and rules would be grandfathered in; we would not go back and address things that have happened before the guidelines were in place, or before enforcement was available.

NOTE: The new COA form was approved at the January 2008 meeting, as the minutes reflect.

At this time, this meeting was adjourned.

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Dwight Hopkins, Chairman

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Cami Brown, Rec. Secretary