

THOMASVILLE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
OFFICIAL MINUTES
June 12, 2007

The Thomasville Historic Preservation Commission met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, June 12, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. at the Municipal Building Council Chambers. Voting members present were John Bennett, Ray Finger, Gina Shumake, Pat Glenn, Richard Parvey, Peggie Wood and Demetrius Hadley. Zoning Administrator, Duane Treadon also attended the meeting.

I. **Call to Order**

John Bennett called the meeting to order.

II. **Approval of Minutes**

Ray Finger moved that the May 8, 2007 minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Peggy Wood and passed unanimously.

III. **Old Business**

Applicant 07-02-01

R.G. Berdis, owner's agent for property located at 129 E. Jackson Street, Thomasville, GA being located in the Downtown Commercial Historic District. The application is to request a certificate of appropriateness to install window tinting from top of window down 27".

Mr. Berdis told the Commission that the sun beats into the store room and melts all the merchandise that he is trying to sell ie: makeup etc... He is leasing the store from someone else and the owner is not in a hurry to fix anything. There is not an overhang on Mr. Berdis' store and the rain even comes in during storm surges. Mr. Berdis would like to put commercial tinting on the window in order to reduce the heat coming into the store and stop the melting of his merchandise.

Brent Runyon, consultant to the HPC, told the Commission that surrounding buildings have not been restored and that this, if passed, might set a precedent for allowing window tinting. The building itself is considered "intrusive" and the effect of tinting would not further be creating an adverse effect to the district. The effect of the tinting could be that of a transom. Mr. Runyon gave the Commission a list of different kinds of tinting for thought.

The Commission asked Mr. Berdis if he would consider hanging sun shades inside his store. The tinting has not been allowed in the Historic District for some time. Mr. Berdis had no problem with window shades. The Commission suggested several different types of shading that would reduce the sun's glare.

Following discussion by members of the Historic Commission, Gina Shumake motioned to reject the application with a recommendation to install dark window shades instead, seconded by Pat Glenn. The motion passed unanimously.

Applicant 07-02-03

Stanley F. Smith, owner for property located at 510 N. Crawford Street, Thomasville, GA. The application is for a Certificate of Appropriateness for approval of modifications to original plan as related to rear/side door and window area.

Mr. Smith presented his plans of change to the Commission. Mr. Smith wants to replace the door in the rear with a window and on the rear right hand of house replace the window with a door and replace the existing door with a window.

Following discussion by members of the Historic Commission, Pat Glenn motioned to accept the application of change, seconded by Ray Finger. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. **New Business**

Applicant 07-06-01

Vivian Kadis, owner for property located at 116 N. Madison Street Thomasville, Georgia being located in the Downtown Commercial Historic District. The application is to request a certificate of appropriateness to “return the façade to its original condition.”

Ms. Kadis presented updated plans to renovate and restore the above mentioned property to the Historic Commission.

An original photo of the building taken in 1926 was presented by Mrs. Kadis. It shows very wide openings. Mr. Johnny Tuggle, contractor for Mrs. Kadis, stated that he had worked in renovation of older structures for many years and that he was not comfortable restoring the openings to their original widths because this would leave very little support for the large wall and parapet above. He stated that he would not know the material, size or condition of the beam above the original openings until he began demolition, but that he wanted to have a plan of what he was going to put back so that he could go ahead and order the steel needed for the entire project.

In addition, Mrs. Kadis desires to have recessed doors to prevent deterioration by weathering and to allow a feeling of safety for customers as the sidewalk is narrow and the street is very busy. She also felt that the façade of the building should be symmetrical although the original was not. The HPC did not have an issue with recessing the doorway, but felt that the appearance from the street should be one of wood and glass, not brick, although brick would be allowed on the walls to either side of the opening and on the wall with the door, although it should be minimized.

One main concern by the HPC was the balance of height and width. The submitted drawing gives an appearance of very short doors in relation to the overall building. Mr. Parvey and Mrs. Shumake, in particular, suggested that they do something to provide

greater height to the door and window openings. Mr. Tuggle said he would do what was possible, but could not exceed the original height which would be determined by where the existing beams are above the doors and windows. It was suggested by the HPC that they consider using either a signboard or a course of brick for visual height.

Concerning the use of materials, Mrs. Kadis presented the idea that she would use wooden doors and brick that would closely resemble the original. No actual samples were presented.

Finally, the HPC requested to see the state-approved drawings, but stated that they likely would not disapprove any changes that were mandated by the state for the rehabilitation tax credit.

Following discussion by members of the Historic Commission, Ray Finger motioned to accept the application as presented with the following exceptions, (1) to extend the transom over each door to the outside of the sidelights (2) to provide for sidelights on either side of the door to increase the visual width of the entryway, sidelights having lower wood panel and division of panes to match door (3) The HPC will have a further review of the plans after state approval and (4) The Certificate of Appropriateness will be presented upon receipt of the revised elevations and plans as outlined in this motion. Motion seconded by Richard Parvey. The motion passed unanimously.

Brent Runyon – Overview of Historic Districts

Mr. Runyon gave a quick overview of Historic Districts to the Historic Preservation Commission. Mr. Runyon suggested that the next scheduled meeting be held at 5:30 pm in order to give ample time for the general public to attend. The Commission agreed to move the July 2007 meeting to 5:30 pm.

V. **Adjournment**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.