

LIBERTY HISTORIC DISTRICT REVIEW COMMISSION
Meeting Summary
February 2, 2021
Via Zoom Video Conference 4:00 pm

Present via Video Conference: Matt Grundy, John Carr, Vern Drottz, Dail Hobbs, Clay Lozier, Martha Reppert, Doug Wilson Absent: Mike Gilmore, Brett Rinker

Applicants Present via Zoom: Paul Victor, Ready To Show, representing the 253 W Kansas applicants. Brandi Atwell, A3G Architects, representing the 215 Wilson applicants.

Staff Present: Jeanine Thill, Community Development Manager and Katherine Sharp, Planning & Development Director/Moderator

Chairman Grundy called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Approval of minutes from the last meeting: A motion was made by Vice Chairman Carr to approve the December 1, 2020 meeting summary as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Drottz. The motion passed 7-0-0.

HDRC Case #20-018D Consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness for exterior alterations at 253 W. Kansas, Dougherty Historic District. A 353 Application.

Ms. Thill presented the information from the staff report to the commission. Chairman Grundy asked if there were any questions for staff or the applicant.

Vice Chairman Carr asked Mr. Victor if the central divider in the glass is a muntin. Mr. Victor said yes and that it is a 5 inches wide rail.

Chairman Grundy commented that he liked the re design of the driveway also.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson to approve the application as presented because it meets the UDO and Design Guidelines. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Carr. The motion passed 7-0-0.

HDRC Case #21-001J Consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness for a railing topper to meet 36" height requirement on an existing deck railing at 415 Wilson, Jewell Historic District, a previously approved 353 application.

Ms. Thill presented the application to the commission. Chairman Grundy asked for questions or comments from the commission.

Commissioner Lozier asked if a 36" rail was approved in their previous application. Ms. Thill said yes, that a 36" rail was approved.

Vice Chairman Carr commented that obviously there was a contractor error. He added that because it is a new deck and rail, the proposed topper destroys the look of what was originally approved. Ms. Atwell said if they raise the rail it will be over where the turning starts on the column. Vice Chairman Carr said the contractor should correct this.

Ms. Atwell said the contractor has brain cancer and is no longer working.

Commissioner Drottz asked if they could have a turn down.

Vice Chairman Carr said they could also do a radius cut on the replacement of the rail. Ms. Atwell commented that the top of the round is still not 36”.

Vice Chairman Carr asked if the topper would have space between it and the turned post.

Commissioner Drottz asked if it is supposed to mimic what is on the front porch. Ms. Atwell said that was not the goal.

Commissioner Wilson said another idea would be to take a few inches off the columns. Ms. Atwell said they talked to the home owner about this and they wanted to avoid that if possible.

Chairman Grundy suggested that they could have a design sub-committee meeting on site to discuss options. The consensus was to table this until the design subcommittee can meet.

Other Business

Nuisance Homes Update – Ms. Thill said she emailed an update to the Commission earlier in the day that email also included information on the porch at 124 N. Gallatin. Vice Chairman Carr commented that the porch at 124 N Gallatin is looking very nice, that there has been detail applied in the last day or so.

Administrative Approvals since the December 1, 2020 meeting:

15 E Kansas Sign at Brant's

249 W. Kansas Front Porch like in kind repairs & replacement of floor and rail

Miscellaneous matters from the Commission:

Vice Chairman Carr said that work was done on the front gables at 138 S Terrace. He will send staff a photo.

Commissioner Lozier asked about the Neal Ray studio building and what was thought to be water damage. Ms. Sharp said there was a structural engineer who did a drone survey of buildings around the square and nothing was reported of such damage.

Commissioner Wilson asked if commercial properties have City inspections done like residential rentals. Ms. Sharp said the residential rental program is voluntary. Adding that the City has a minimum property code and building inspections during permitting.

Miscellaneous matters from Staff:

The Preservation Plan will be open for public comment on the website this week and will go to City Council for adoption March 8.

The homeowner at 226 Jewell has been in communication with staff and he said he will have an application submitted by the end of February.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm.