

**LIBERTY HISTORIC DISTRICT REVIEW COMMISSION**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**March 15, 2022**  
**5:30 p.m.**  
**City Council Chambers**

Roll Call: John Carr, Vern Drottz, Aimee Gray, Mike Gilmore, Matt Grundy, Dail Hobbs, Martha Reppert, Brett Rinker, Doug Wilson

Present: John Carr, Vern Drottz, Mike Gilmore, Aimee Gray, Matt Grundy, Doug Wilson

Absent: Dail Hobbs, Martha Reppert, Brett Rinker

Staff Present: Jeanine Thill, Community Development Manager

Chairman Grundy called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

**Approval of Meeting Summary: March 1, 2022 HDRC Meeting Summary**

Commissioner Gilmore made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as corrected. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gray. The motion passed 6-0-0.

**Current Business**

HDRC Case #22-002LA Consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness for a rear yard privacy fence at 758 W. Liberty Drive, Liberty Landmark:

- The applicant said the privacy fence will help screen the view of the neighbor's house and the ability for them to see into their home. This will be beneficial when she is hosting events in the sunroom.
- Commissioner Wilson said it looks like the proposed fence is not up to the property line. Ms. Page said that is correct, she didn't need to put a fence that close to the property line or the other house. She added that she talked to her neighbor about the proposed fence and they have no plans to put in a fence.
- Ms. Page clarified that the orange line on the site map represents an area where she would like to have lattice sections, they wouldn't be fencing but some screening but that is not part of this application. Commissioner Wilson said there have been some debates about that. It would be more of a trellis and lattice piece that does not connect anywhere. Also, there is a pergola on the grounds that she may connect.
- The only amendment to the original application is that the applicant is requesting to move the privacy fence back five feet toward the back of the lot.
- Vice Chairman Carr said he is supportive of the application and added that it can't be seen from the street.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Carr to approve the application with the addendum that the rear fence will be moved back five feet. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gilmore. The motion passed 6-0-0.

HDRC Case #22-004D Consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness for removal of an exterior door at 331 W. Kansas Street, Dougherty Historic District:

- Chairman Grundy asked for clarification on which door they would like to remove and if there was evidence that it wasn't always there. Mr. Wyllie said he is proposing to remove the east facing door on the north elevation and he doesn't believe that it was an original door.
- Vice Chairman Carr said that he spoke to the previous owner of the home who said it was converted to a duplex at some point in time.
- Vice Chairman Carr said HDRC has previously approved removal of doors in the past: 124 S Terrace, 456 E Mississippi, 456 E Kansas, and 460 E Mill Street, where two doors were removed from the wrap-around porch. These were all approved by HDRC.
- Commissioner Gilmore commented that there is not evidence that there were originally two front doors on this home.
- For the siding, Vice Chairman Carr suggested half inch by 6 beveled cedar siding to match the existing. Chairman Grundy clarified that the siding measurement is to match the existing.
- Chairman Grundy added that the two doors are not mentioned in the Historic Survey and if it was used as a duplex, then two doors make sense.
- Commissioner Wilson asked if the siding and floors matched or if there was evidence of whether the interior could have been enclosed at some point in time. The applicant said he didn't think so.
- Commissioner Gray pointed out that the bottom rails of the entry doors do not match.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gray to approve the application as presented, because the door doesn't appear to be original to the home. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gilmore. The motion passed 6-0-0.

**Other Business**

Administrative Approvals since the March 1, 2022 meeting:

- HDRC Case# 22-001LA: Picket Fence in rear yard at 758 W Liberty Drive, Liberty Landmark
- HDRC Case# 22-002J: Like in-kind repairs to the handrails at 421 N Lightburne Street, Jewell Historic District

Miscellaneous matters from the Commission:

- Commissioner Gray said a downtown building owner asked if a skylight door leading to a roof top with a railing around the roof top would be considered. The Commission commented that it would depend if it could be seen from the front of the building. Commissioner Gray commented that on this particular building, probably not. She added that it is for Vicky Burnett's building at Water and Franklin Street. Visibility from the street would be a consideration. Commissioner Gray added that the only thing taller would be the Clay County Courthouse. There is a sizable parapet on the building. Staff said it should come before the Commission for consideration as a formal application.
- Vice Chairman Carr said he has an opportunity to do a window workshop at a house on Jewell Street. He asked Commissioner Drottz if he would be interested in helping with

the workshop. Commissioner Drottz asked how many hours it would take. Vice Chairman Carr said generally, three hours. Commissioner Drottz said he would consider. Commissioner Gray said there is interest in this type of workshop. If he had other people there he could do a more in-depth demonstration. Commissioner Wilson said it would be good for people to learn that they can do the work on windows themselves.

- 226 N Jewell – Vice Chairman Carr said that Mr. Buhlig’s son said the siding would be in soon. He added it may be delayed because a sewer line collapsed at another one of his homes.
- Commissioner Gray asked if HDRC has ever considered regulating color. Commissioner Gilmore said regulating exterior color has not been allowed in the past. Commissioner Gray said that Jan Crouch is upset about the purple house on West Franklin Street. Commissioner Wilson commented that if he was drafting the ordinance there might be a way to address this. Commissioner Drottz said that the owner of a house on Ward Parkway painted their home a color scheme out of spite. All black houses are a trend right now.
- Staff will see if there will be a State Preservation Conference this year.

Miscellaneous matters from Staff: None

Preservation Month activities:

- At the May City Council meeting a proclamation for “Preservation Month” will be made along with presentations to the three individuals (Ken Personett, Sam Fiore, and Chris Harris) for their preservation work, an action item in the Preservation Plan.
- Also, Staff is working on something for each Saturday in May to include the window workshop, a walking tour on the first Saturday in May, and possibly open houses at two local Landmark properties.

The meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.