

**LIBERTY HISTORIC DISTRICT REVIEW COMMISSION**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**January 7, 2025**  
**5:30 pm**  
**Virtually**

Roll Call: Paemon Aramjoo, Linda Armstrong, John Carr, Kathy Chelton, Vern Drottz, Aimee Gray, Matt Grundy, Brett Rinker, Katie Schmidt

Present: Paemon Aramjoo, Linda Armstrong, Kathy Chelton, Aimee Gray, Matt Grundy

Absent: John Carr, Vern Drottz, Brett Rinker, Katie Schmidt

Applicant: Ken Personett

Staff Present: Jeanine Thill, Community Development Manager

Chairman Grundy called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Approval of Meeting Summary November 19, 2024:** A motion to approve the meeting summary was made by Commissioner Aramjoo. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chelton. The motion passed 5-0-0

### **Current Business**

#### **HDRC Case #25-001L Consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness for alterations to the rear porch and building a 3' retaining wall in the rear yard at 337 N. Water Street, Lightburne Historic District.**

- Ms. Thill read the staff report and recommended approval of the application. Additional detail on the rail and balustrade was submitted:
  - Top rail and balusters as shown and the bottom rail is a 2x4. The bottom rail is 3-1/2" above floor. Top rail @ 36" above floor/stair tread. Balusters spaced 3-1/2" gap in between.
- Commissioner Gray commented that it all appears to meet code, because this is new the height of the rail is appropriate.
- Commissioner Chelton asked if the railing is only on one side. She thought it would look strange to her if there aren't two.
- The commission would like clarification if the cellar door would be covered with the new design.
- Commissioner Chelton suggested that there should be a short railing on the right side so it looks traditional, five feet seems too wide. A newel post might be helpful.
- Mr. Personett joined the meeting and confirmed that there are railings on both sides of the stairs.
- Commissioner Armstrong commented that having a railing on both sides would be nice.

- Commissioner Chelton asked if the cellar door is new if that should be blocked off.
- Commissioner Gray commented that it should be extended and added that the railing as proposed is appropriate.
- Mr. Personett said that the railing is for aesthetics and not required by code and that anything less than 32 inches off the ground doesn't require a railing.
  - For the ramp, he would have to confirm those details with the building division.
  - If a rail is needed it should match what is existing and required by code. It should be attached post to post so the access door is operable.
- Commissioner Armstrong said the retaining wall seems necessary and appropriate.

A motion was made by Commissioner Aramjoo to approve the application as presented. With the caveat that if a railing is necessary, it will match. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Armstrong. The motion passed 4-0-1. Commissioner Gray recused herself.

### **Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

- Ms. Thill said that Matt Grundy agreed to serve as Chairman, if so desired by the Commission and Paemon Aramjoo and John Carr are both agreeable to serve as Vice Chair.
- Commissioner Aramjoo said he had a good conversation with John Carr about possibly serving as Vice Chair, given his recent health issues and challenges attending meetings.
- Staff said that Carr said he would support a change.

A motion to approve Matt Grundy as Chair of HDRC was made by Commissioner Aramjoo. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chelton. The motion passed 4-0-1. Grundy abstained.

A motion to approve Paemon Aramjoo as Vice Chair of HDRC was made by Commissioner Gray. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Armstrong. The motion passed 4-0-1. Aramjoo abstained.

### **Other Business**

Miscellaneous matters from the Commission: None

Miscellaneous matters from Staff:

- There will be a Design Sub Committee meeting at 27 S. Jewell on Friday January 24 or Feb 7
- Commissioners Chelton, Gray and Armstrong are available on 24th at 11 am. Staff will confirm with the homeowner.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm.