

THOMASVILLE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
OFFICIAL MINUTES
February 25, 2009

The Thomasville Historic Preservation Commission met in a called meeting on Wednesday, February 25, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the Municipal Building Council Chambers. Commissioners present were Pat Glenn, Gina Shumake, Bill Inman, Nancy Mills, and John Hand. Also attending was Brent Runyon Consultant to the Commission, Duane Treadon Planning & Zoning Administrator, Ed Aquino Chief Building Official, Lee Chastain City Planner and Margaret Bryant Recording Secretary to the Commission.

I. **Call to Order**

Gina Shumake called the meeting to order.

II. **Old Business**

Trinity Church 325 W. Jackson Street South Elevation, center building Jackson Street Windows, Fire escape stairs on Spearmint Gum Wall and future plans.

Gina called on Brent Runyon to give the consultant report to the Commission. Mr. Runyon stated the only question was the façade.

Gina called for the representative for the church to speak. Mr. Silas Dunn explained that in the future the church would like to extend the building out forty feet. The walls are being made so that at the point of expansion the contractors can take a crane and be able to lift the walls out. The walls are hardy board with batten siding. The buildings facing Jackson Street will be built like they were in the 1900's which are three different buildings. The contractor would like permission to install two over two windows in each end building and nine over nine in the middle building as they would have been in the 1900's. The color of the buildings will tie in with the color of the brick and will be of a reasonable neutral color.

Brent Runyon asked for a timeline for the expansion of the church expressing concerns of the hardy board and batten siding on the south elevation. Mr. Runyon stated that this type of siding did not fit in well with downtown and that the walls should be brick to match the existing downtown area. Mr. Nunn said that the timeline right now is ten to fifteen years from now. Mr. Nunn said that there is a Japanese Nitchi Ha brick like material that could be installed but the church is already over budget.

Nancy Mills asked about the roof pitch being 2:12 being too high, Mr. Treadon reminded the Commission that they had already approved at the lowest a 4:12 roof pitch and the church went lower than that. Mr. Jack Wilson, Architect for the church, stated that the church was already having issues with water drainage and the roof had been re-engineered to fit the lowest pitch and still have water run off.

Mr. Dunn said that the "Spearmint Gum" wall could not stand up by itself because of water damage and had to be braced to stabilize the wall until they could start construction. This wall will be attached to the new building as a façade. The Fire

Marshall has stated that the church has to have two escapes from the sanctuary and the best place for that is along this wall. The plans call for two stairs from either side of the wall that would attach only at the platform level and then are free standing stair cases to the ground. In order to preserve this wall the plans call for the two escape doors be flat panel doors to eliminate any offsets. Mr. Ian Quinton would provide a design to match the "Spearmint Gum" design that is already there to the doors, making the new doors to blend. Mr. Runyon asked if they could build an interior fire stairwell instead. Mr. Jack Wilson stated that there would be too much of a loss regarding seating and the mezzine level would be lost. Mr. Quinton asked what would the Commission have them do in order to preserve this wall? Gina Shumake asked if they would take a picture of the wall before any work is done and give it to Brent Runyon to record. Mr. Jack Wilson asked that some sort of sealant be approved for the outside of this wall to be protected. Ms. Shumake asked Brent Runyon to research that for the church.

After Discussion Bill Inman moved that the three elevations be approved as presented with the following stipulations:

- ***The church must come back in four years with plans for expansion of the south elevation***
- ***Two over two windows on either end of the west elevation is approved***
- ***Nine over nine windows of the middle building of the west elevation is approved***
- ***Outside stair well fire escape on the North elevation (painted wall advertisement) approved***
- ***Flat door on North painted advertisement wall and design***
- ***Brent Runyon will research a sealant to be applied to painted advertisement wall***

Nancy Mills seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Chairman of the Historic Preservation Commission