

SMITHVILLE HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND DESIGN STANDARDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (HPDSAC) MEETING.

Minutes: Wednesday March 19th 2025

PRESENT: Walter Winslett, Monica Poss, LeRoy Behrens, Victoria Allen, Bonnie Joplin, Louisa Najar, Jose Rivera, Jill Strube.

ABSENT: Charles Diltz, Michele Nelson

1. **Meeting called to order:** at 5:06 pm
2. **Introductions:** All committee members introduced themselves.
3. **Announcements/Presentations/Proclamations/Awards:** Louisa Najar was introduced as the newest Board member. She currently lives on Smithville's Southside, and can offer a perspective from that neighborhood. Monica Poss announced an open seat for HPDS.
4. **Previous Minutes:** Approved.
5. **Discussion and Actions:** Alta Yevett Alexander was introduced and invited to present the Historical Marker Summaries for Mary A. Brown School, Mount Pilgrim Baptist Church, and an Honorary Historical Marker for the Colorado Baptist Church. Ms. Alexander provided the extensive history, the impact of these entities on the Southside, their contributions to the community, and the resourcefulness and determination to foster unity and support. Willie Culberson, Eric Culberson and Jim Horton presented public remarks for the support of these proposals. It was also noted that the true owner of the Colorado Baptist Church is still being researched at this time. The HPDS board voted to approve the Historical Markers and the Honorary Marker and will be presented to the City Council. The school Superintendent will have to approve the marker for Mary A. Brown School prior to being approved by the City Council. The verbiage presented to use for the honorary marker was also approved. All applications were provided by Ms. Alexander.
6. **Future discussion and next meeting date:** Monica Poss asked the HPDS board to consider our last discussion regarding The Residential Historical District and if we can provide further guidance or involvement to this significant subject. The next HPDS meeting is scheduled for June 2025 unless other business should arise.
7. **Meeting adjourned:** at 5:38pm.

Submitted by Victoria Allen – secretary.