

## Historic NSB Preservation Commission Meeting

June 14, 2023 at 5:30 pm

Video of the meeting can be found [here](#):

**Board members present:** Joanna Mahood (chair), Dr. Angeline Barretta-Herman, Terry Bledsoe, Douglas Toth, Stephanie Thomas-Rees and Katherine Kaufman. **Absent:** Lianne Bennett.

**Others Present:** Senior Planner Robert Mathen, Assistant City Attorney Shey McCurdy, Assistant City Manager Ron Neibert, and Development Services Coordinator Stephanie Ferrara.

**APPROVAL FOR THE MINUTES** for the December 14, 2022, and March 8, 2023 meetings were approved.

**Public Participation:** None

### **LD-1-23: Review and Give a Recommendation to the City Commission on a Local Landmark Designation of the Oak Grove Church of Apostolic Faith located at 441 Sheldon Street.**

Staff recommends approving local landmark designation of this property as it meets multiple criteria.

Ms. Barretta-Herman inquired about the maintenance requirements for properties with local landmark designation, noting that some current landmarks are not well-maintained. Mr. Mathen indicated that city-owned properties were required to be maintained by the city and privately-owned properties are maintained by the owners. In both cases they are subject to community standards, with code compliance being the agency responsible for monitoring such issues.

The owner of this property would like to do some renovations on the property and with local landmark status, it could open the door for assistance with the maintenance and renovation expenses.

Chair Mahood invited the property owner, Linda Teemer-Baker, to address the Commission regarding the property. Ms. Teemer-Baker spoke about the importance of the property in the community and its significance in the lives of many residents. The roof is in need of repair, but the structure is strong, and the architectural design is similar to others within the area and it should be preserved.

The Commission voted 6-0 to recommend approval to the City Commission for landmark status.

#### **Committee Comments:**

- Mr. Toth would like to see updates to the website with specific examples to help clarify to property owners and the community what the guidelines are for historic properties.
- Ms. Kaufman mentioned the idea of a calendar contest on some aspects of historic characteristics, such as vintage signs, as a means of encouraging appreciation for historic features.
- Dr. Barretta-Herman thanked the Daytona Beach News Journal for their front-page article on the Old Fort Park. She also mentioned the 2024 Home Tour and the New Smyrna Beach Residents' Coalition upcoming education seminar on Historic Preservation to be held on 9/21 with guest speaker Scott Sidler. She also mentioned concern over comments in City Commission meetings with regard to the Chapter 50 update process.
- Ms. Thomas-Rees mentioned the previous discussion about using one of the months between meeting dates as a workshop. Mr. Mathen said the city decided to use May for the community meeting. Ms. McCurdy suggested adding items to the next regular meeting agenda instead of having a separate workshop.

- Dr. Baretta-Herman mentioned having speakers with similar goals, such as the Questers, come to a future meeting.
- Mr. Toth asked for an update on the Old Fort project. It is currently on hold because there are 2 walls behind the current wall, so it is being reengineered. Nothing of archaeological significance has been found so far.
- The Women’s Club restoration hit a snag with some extra rot found in the walls, so there might be some additional work required on that prior to the joist work.
- Dr. Barretta-Herman inquired whether the City has a maintenance schedule for historic buildings so that the buildings don’t deteriorate so much before work is done. Mr. Neibert indicated that the Women’s Club dissolved, and the City took over the property in a neglected state, but that there is a maintenance schedule for city owned buildings.

**Staff Comments:**

- Mr. Mathen said they are looking for applicants for the 2023 Donnadine Miller awards for buildings that are 50 years old or older. He suggested that some of the homes from the Home Tour might be appropriate candidates.

**The next meeting is scheduled for September 13, 2023**