

COMMISSION OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW

JULY 30, 2015

**Members Present**

Michael Nicholas  
Sarah Latham  
Robert Weir  
Robin Crews  
Susan Stilwell  
Sean Davis

**Members Absent**

Jeffrey Bond

**Staff**

Renee Burton  
Alan Spencer  
Shanta Hairston

Chairman Nicholas called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Mr. Nicholas called for nominations for Vice Chairman due to the resignation of the previous Vice Chairman, Sarah Latham.

**Mrs. Stilwell nominated Mrs. Crews for Vice Chairman. The motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.**

**ITEMS TABLED FROM MAY 28, 2015**

- 1. Request for a Certificate of Appropriateness at 249 West Main Street to construct a pergola at the rear of the property. The pergola will be constructed on top of the garage and will be dark brown aluminum.*

Mr. Davis appeared at the meeting at 3:32 pm.

Mr. Nicholas opened the Public Hearing.

Present on behalf of the request was Mr. Lewis Dumont from 249 West Main Street.

Mr. Dumont stated hi I'm Lewis Dumont from 249 West Main Street and thank you for putting this on the agenda. Mary and I are requesting approval for a pergola - a nine foot by eleven foot – put on the back deck as submitted on the plan. To recap the CAR has approved two pergolas with vinyl siding three houses down from us at 235 West Main Street. Ours would be the same dark color as the house and as the deck rails and the columns. We feel it will blend real well with the rest of the house. The pergola profiles would look very original as they're supposed to look on a historical house. We went ahead and painted the aluminum columns to the dark brown to match the house better. We heard you guys last time and to be quite frank that's the color I originally wanted to start with, but was advised differently. Also the dimensions of the pergola would be very similar to what the original pergola across the street at the Wentz's house

and the profiles almost look identical. As Sean asked last time and I couldn't answer, these pergolas have been installed at numerous historical sites including Hilton Head Plantation in the historical district of South Carolina. We feel that this request is consistent with the approvals of the garages with decks that have been approved in the past in the historical district. That is our request. Are there any questions?

Mr. Nicholas asked any questions for the applicant?

Mrs. Stilwell stated I simply want to say, if I may clarify, I spoke with Mr. Dumont when we came in and we'd bought houses almost next to each other in 1988 and I've watched them redo this house piece by piece to total magnificence. I kept thinking we were talking about building the pergola on the garage. The garage is actually under the rear deck. I kept going by there trying to figure out if there was another garage sticking out or what. I just wanted to make sure everyone did understand that it is just a roof over a deck basically is what it comes down to in my interpretation.

Mr. Dumont stated and Susan your description is exactly correct. It would match the profile of the upper deck and stick out and sort of just come on out two-thirds of the way. This would come out another nine feet and leave about six feet so the profile is very nice and not overwhelming. Also with that dark color – and that dark color is the back wood color at Sherwin Williams- and it is the color of all the frame of the house.

Mr. Nicholas closed the Public Hearing.

**Mrs. Stilwell made a motion that the request does not meet the guidelines. Mrs. Crews seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 4-1 vote.**

**Mr. Weir made a motion to approve the request as submitted because it does not have an adverse effect on the structure or the district. Mrs. Crews seconded the motion.**

Mr. Nicholas stated back in the December meeting of 2006, there was an application for a similar pergola that was approved. The material was steel poles and steel beams with pressure treated lumber. There was a question at the last meeting of why we carried it over. It was brought up that there was a previous approval, and it appears there was one.

Mr. Davis stated I went and looked at the product and the seams are very tight and everything. Well there are other companies out there where it is aluminum and it does not look good, but he went out of his way to find a company that would make it look good. Would we be opening up a can of worms if we said we are allowing this aluminum to go through but this company that he chose would have to be used?

Mr. Nicholas stated I think the way we would be able to do that is to explain I'm voting yes for this application because of the particular company chosen and the quality of the product they've chosen is X, Y, Z. I would just say it to put it in the record so that it's there when anyone else wants to look at the history of this meeting. They will at least know why you voted the way you did.

Mrs. Burton stated I think the guidelines stated that in case by case situations to treat each one differently; and that gives you the basis to judge each case based off style, fitting and everything and not just aluminum.

Mr. Davis stated okay I just wanted to make sure.

**The motion to approve the request to construct a pergola at 249 West Main Street was approved by a 5-0 vote.**

### **ITEMS FOR PUBLIC HEARING**

1. *Request for a Certificate of Appropriateness at 1033 Main Street to complete the following:*
  - a) *Install 6' dog-eared style cedar fence on right side of house*
  - b) *Install rod iron fence in front yard*
  - c) *Construct rear wood deck 8' x 10' with treated lumber and square railings and pickets*
  - d) *Construct a covered 3' landing on left side of house at entry.*

Mr. Nicholas opened the Public Hearing.

Present on behalf of the request was Mr. Floyd Guidry.

Mr. Guidry stated I'm from Greensboro. We purchased this house in 2010 and it was I assume going to be condemned. We brought it back to life and we made this house a five year project. We're in our fourth year. We have almost completed the first floor. The second and third floor will be completed in another year or year and a half. On the exterior what we want to do is there's a six foot fence we want to replace with cedar lumber and dog eared board. At the front there has never been a fence and we want to put in an antique fence in front of the house. Unfortunately I don't have a picture of the house to show you what it would look like, but the intent is to give it a little pizzazz. It's one of the houses that need a lot of architectural gizmos to give it class. On the rear of the house, the rear door is about four and a half feet above grade we want to build a deck in the rear to the height where it would not be seen in the street. On the interior of the house we want to put in a three by four foot landing where the exterior door opens to the outside. We have to have that landing there otherwise it will be very difficult to set the door up where it opens inside the house because of the structure.

Mr. Nicholas closed the Public Hearing.

**Mrs. Stilwell made a motion to approve all four items of the request as submitted. Mr. Weir seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.**

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINTUES**

**Mrs. Latham made a motion to approve the June 25, 2015 minutes with a grammar change on page four, a change from Nashville, NC to Asheville, NC on page nine, and a spelling correction to Colonel Lawrence Meder's name on page ten. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mrs. Stilwell asked about the status Five Forks properties. Mrs. Burton informed the Commission that the City has consulted with Dewberry to determine how the complex can be split along the property lines as it had been voted upon at the last meeting.

Mrs. Burton informed the Commission that Mr. Liepe's appeal on 944 Main Street would be heard by City Council on August 18, 2015. Mr. Nicholas informed the members that he would be in attendance to represent the Commission. Further discussion was made on the 944 Main Street appeal regarding zoning violations.

**Mr. Davis made a motion requesting that the City investigate 944 Main Street for violations with the vinyl additions on the back and side of the house. Mrs. Stilwell seconded the motion.**

Mrs. Burton made a point that the vinyl siding had already been approved by the Commission. Mr. Davis withdrew his motion. Mrs. Stilwell withdrew her second on the motion.

Mrs. Burton informed the Commission that a standalone mailbox had been erected at 165 Holbrook Avenue without permission. She informed the Commission that it would be brought before them at the next meeting.

Mrs. Burton also informed the Commission that this would be Ms. Hairston's last meeting.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

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Approved