

Motion was made by Paul Sampson, and seconded by Charlie Hayek to approve COA 14-20 with the following conditions:

- 1) The fence shall not exceed 6' in height until the fence is behind the Boston House sign.
- 2) Sliding gate should be installed as close to the building as possible.
- 3) Lighting shall be installed both in front of and behind the newly planted hedges on Indian River Drive and Boston Avenue.
- 4) Hedges shall be maintained no higher than the retaining wall.

AYE: Paul Sampson, Jean-Ellen Wilson, Suzanne Boardman, Holly Theuns, Charlie Hayek, Vice-Chair Peggy Harris

NAY: Brad Culverhouse

Passed

- b. Seal, stucco, and paint the east wall of the subject structure to match existing walls of the structure.

Mr. Sampson disclosed that he knows the representative, Marty Limberis Plastering personally but he has no ties to the project.

Mr. Benton gave an overview of the project. Mr. Culverhouse asked who paid for the mural. Mr. Benton responded that it is difficult to suggest the specific organization that paid for the mural. He was led to believe it was donations through Ft. Pierce Mainstreet and St. Lucie County Mural Society in 1995. The existing property owner took ownership of the structure after the mural was painted and after the City of Ft. Pierce had adopted the Downtown Historic District.

Mr. Culverhouse asked if it is possible to seal the wall in other way besides stuccoing or sealing over the mural. Mr. Benton stated there are other alternatives to preserve the mural as well as preclude any water permeation. Mr. Culverhouse asked the difference in cost of acrylic clear coat sealant opposed to stuccoing over. Mr. Benton stated he is not aware of the cost. Mr. Culverhouse asked if the clear coat would preserve the mural. Mr. Benton stated yes, if done properly.

Ms. Boardman asked if the applicant indicated they would add a mural once the wall had new stucco. Mr. Benton stated staff engaged in discussions with the property owner and they indicated the City of Ft. Pierce or the Mural Society would have the ability to repaint a mural on the wall; however it is contingent on funding and assurance from the applicant that it can be executed. Mr. Sampson asked if anyone has contacted the mural society. Mr. Benton stated he tried to contact Ms. Cassens from the St. Lucie County Mural Society and Mainstreet Ft. Pierce.

Mr. Sampson stated there are some serious cracks and gaps in the block work so it would take quite a bit of clear coat to seal them up. Mr. Culverhouse asked if there is any reason it could not be done. Mr. Hayek stated he has been watching most of the construction Limberis Plastering has done. He does not think it can be repaired with a sealer. The cracks are so extensive and the preservation of a building is a lot more important than a preservation of a mural. They will not be able to stop the leaks unless they do an entire stucco job on the entire east end. Mr. Benton read an e-mail from the applicant stating that over the past two years the wall has deteriorated significantly. Currently the moisture seeps through the staircase cracks rendering the inside of the wall moldy and the rain swells the cracks even more, creating a vicious cycle.

Vice-Chair Harris asks if the grant that was discussed a couple of months ago, could be used

to put the mural back. Mr. Benton responded that all the funds have been allocated for the past year's façade grant opportunity. Funds were allocated to this specific property owner for improvements of the site.

Motion was made by Paul Sampson, and seconded by Brad Culverhouse with the following conditions. The Board considers the mural of historic importance. If the mural cannot be sealed, the wall will have a smooth coat of stucco applied to accept a new mural. The new mural is to be replaced within 6 months and be of equal size, quality and historical significance of the old mural. The new mural will need to be approved by the Planning staff.

AYE: Paul Sampson, Jean-Ellen Wilson, Brad Culverhouse, Suzanne Boardman, Holly Theuns, Vice-Chair Peggy Harris

NAY: Charlie Hayek

Passed

6. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Benton stated staff is moving very close to finalizing the proposed signage for installation at Old Fort Park.

The framing has been prepared for installation of the new windows at the St. Anastasia school house on Orange Avenue. The city has been approached by the St. Anastasia Endowment Board. They would like to receive any of the preserved windows for part of their fundraising program.

Vice-Chair Harris congratulated Mr. Sampson for not missing a Historic Preservation meeting.

7. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

Motion was made by Paul Sampson, and seconded by Brad Culverhouse to table vote of Chair and Vice-Chair until next meeting when Chairwoman Gates is present.

AYE: Paul Sampson, Jean-Ellen Wilson, Brad Culverhouse, Suzanne Boardman, Holly Theuns, Charlie Hayek, Vice-Chair Peggy Harris

Passed

8. CONSIDERATION OF ABSENCES

Mr. Benton stated he appreciates everyone who attended the meeting. In the past there have been circumstances and concerns for attendance.

He stated several applicants have applied for the Historic Preservation Board in the last couple of months and the City Commission does look at attendance. Mr. Culverhouse asked whose terms were up. Mr. Benton stated Ms. Boardman, Chairwoman Gates, Ms. Jackson, Mr. Sampson and Ms. Wilson's term expire April 2015. Mr. Culverhouse's term expires April 2016.

Motion was made by Suzanne Boardman, and seconded by Holly Theuns to excuse the absences of Chairwoman Gates and Ms. Jackson.

AYE: Paul Sampson, Jean-Ellen Wilson, Brad Culverhouse, Suzanne Boardman, Holly Theuns, Charlie Hayek, Vice-Chair Peggy Harris

Passed