



CHARLOTTE

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MINUTES

October 8, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Tim Bender
Dr. Lili Corbus
Mr. Don Duffy
Mr. Rodric Lenhart
Ms. Mattie Marshall
Mr. Dominick Ristaino, Vice Chair
Mr. Michael Sullivan
Ms. Tamara Titus, Second Vice Chair
Ms. Lisa Yarbrough

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Tom Egan, Chair
2 Vacancies

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. John Howard, Administrator
Historic District Commission
Ms. Wanda Birmingham, Assistant Administrator
Historic District Commission
Ms. Linda Keich, Clerk to the
Historic District Commission
Mr. Thomas Powers, Assistant City Attorney
Court Reporters

In Chairman Mr. Egan's absence Vice Chairman Mr. Ristaino called to order the Regular October meeting of the Historic District Commission at 3:00 pm. He began the meeting by introducing the Staff and Commissioners and explaining the procedure. All interested parties planning to give testimony – pro or con – must have completed a blue form and must be sworn in. Mr. Howard or Mrs. Birmingham will present a description of the proposed project. HDC Staff will then make a Staff recommendation based on compliance with the *Policy & Design Guidelines*. The Commission and Staff may question the Applicant. The Applicant may present sworn witnesses who will be subject to questioning by the Commission and Staff. Other interested parties wishing to speak – pro or con – will be given reasonable time to present sworn testimony. The Applicant will be given an opportunity to respond to comments by interested parties. After hearing each application, the Commission will review, discuss, and consider the information that has been gathered and presented. A Motion for Approval, continuation, or Denial will be made. All exhibits remain with the Commission. If an Applicant feels there is a conflict of interest of any Commissioner or there is an association that would be prejudicial, it will be revealed at the beginning of the hearing of a particular case. The Commission is a quasi-judicial body and can accept only sworn testimony. Staff will report any additional comments received. While the Commission will not specifically exclude hearsay evidence, it is only given limited weight. Appeal from the Historic District Commission is to the Zoning Board of Adjustment. One has sixty (60) days from the date of the Approval or Denial to appeal. This is in accordance with Section 10.213 of the City Zoning Ordinance. Mr. Ristaino asked that everyone please turn to silent operation any electronic devices. Commissioners are asked to announce, for the record, if one leaves or arrives during the meeting. Mr. Ristaino said that those in the audience must be quiet during the

hearings. He will ask once that an audience member be quiet and the need for a second request will be removal from the room.

Index of Addresses:	<u>CONTINUED APPLICATIONS</u>	
	HDC 2014-070 1700 Heathcliff Street	Wesley Heights
	HDC 2014-098 325 E. Tremont Avenue	Dilworth
	HDC 2014-168 425 Rensselaer Avenue	Dilworth
	HDC 2014-164 1319 Thomas Avenue	Plaza Midwood
	HDC 2014-170 1817 Merriman Avenue	Wilmore
	HDC 2014-203 2120 Dilworth Road E	Dilworth
	<u>NEW APPLICATIONS</u>	
	HDC 2014-115 224 N. Poplar Street	Fourth Ward
	HDC 2014-136 513 Pine Street	Fourth Ward
	HDC 2014-193 424-436 E. Park Avenue	Dilworth
	HDC 2014-198 712 East Boulevard	Dilworth
	HDC 2014-210 525 East Boulevard	Dilworth
	HDC 2014-216 2037 The Plaza	Plaza Midwood
	HDC 2014-221 417 W Kingston Avenue	Wilmore
	HDC 2014-223 1615 Dilworth Road W	Dilworth

MS. TITUS MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THE CHANGES TO THE RULES FOR PROCEDURES AND THE NEW APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE FORM. MS. YARBROUGH SECONDED. ANY ADDITIONAL CHANGES WILL BE PRESENTED AND CONSIDERED AT THE 2:00 MONTHLY BUSINESS PREMEETING AND VOTED ON IN THE FOLLOWING REGULAR MEETING.

VOTE: 8/1 AYES: BENDER, CORBUS, DUFFY, LENHART, MARSHALL, RISTAINO, TITUS, YARBROUGH

NAYS: SULLIVAN

APPLICATION: HDC 2014-070 – 1700 Heathcliff Street – New Construction.

This application was continued from August for additional design study regarding fenestration and materials. Revised plans include 1) Stucco notes removed, 2) Shutters removed, 3) Window on front removed and replaced with a vent, 4) Fenestration more aligned, 5) Simplified and matching window headers, 6) Adjacent setbacks, 7) Traditional building materials, 8) Height of adjacent homes, 9) Window sections, 10) HVAC units located in the rear, 11) Fireplace removed from site plan, 12) Modified front roof design, 13) Context exhibit, 14) Gable vent on back (as well as the front), 15) All brick foundation, and 16) All dimensions called out.

The site is a triangular vacant lot at the end of a street. The adjacent properties are 1.5 and 2 story single family homes and a two story quadraplex. There are mature trees on the site. There is not an established front setback on the street. The site has an unimproved alley on one side.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The Commission will determine if the proposal meets guidelines for new construction.

FOR/AGAINST: Adjacent Property Owner Rachel Ortiz spoke in opposition

MOTION: Based on the need for additional information Dr. Corbus made a MOTION to CONTINUE this application for 1) Tongue and Groove for the front porch, and an 2) Accurate site plan to include the percentage of lot coverage, and Driveway and sidewalks, and landscaping, and the discussed guard rail and stairway. Mr. Sullivan seconded.

VOTE: 9/0 **AYES:** BENDER, CORBUS, DUFFY, LENHART, MARSHALL, RISTAINO, SULLIVAN, TITUS, YARBROUGH

NAYS: NONE

DECISION: APPLICATION FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION CONTINUED.

APPLICATION: HDC 2014-098– 325 East Tremont Avenue – New Construction.

The application was continued from September for (1) Building materials and, 2) Further design study of the roofline and height along East Tremont Avenue.

The site is located at the corner of Euclid Avenue and East Tremont Avenue and includes several parcels. Existing structures include a single family structure and multi family structure. The 365-Day Stay of Demolition has expired. The surrounding context is multi-family redevelopment and single family homes. The site has mature trees to the rear and within the planting strips along public streets.

The proposal is a 12 unit townhouse development, 9 units will face public streets and 3 will be located to the rear of the site. Parking will be surface under the residential units. The proposed setback along East Tremont Avenue is consistent with the previously approved Dilworth Terrace multi-family project. The setback along Euclid Avenue is approximate to the existing building, approximately 22' from thermal wall to back of curb. The buildings are generally 2.5 to 3 stories in height. Exterior materials include cast stone, brick, wood siding and smooth fiber cement. The units have useable balconies and porches.

Revised Proposal – August 13, 2014

1. Scale – The height of the corner structure at Euclid Ave. and East Tremont has been reduced from 38' from FFE to approx. 33'-5" from FFE. The elevation of the primary structure along Euclid Ave. is approx. 34'-9".
2. Massing – The dormers along Euclid Ave. are centered above the balconies. The roof height has been lowered slightly.
3. Context – A third material, wood shake, has been introduced on the third floor along E. Tremont Ave. along with entry stoops that address the sidewalk.

Revised Proposal – September 10, 2014

1. Scale – The height of the corner structure at Euclid Ave. and East Tremont has been reduced from 38' from FFE to approx. 33'-5" from FFE. The elevation of the primary structure along Euclid Ave. is approx. 34'-9".
2. Massing – The roof line along East Tremont has been changed to a series of hipped roofs.
3. Traditional siding materials are used on primary wall planes.

Revised Proposal – October 8, 2014

1. Massing – The roof line along East Tremont has been lowered.
2. Materials – All traditional.

Revised Proposal – September 10, 2014

Additional elevations and plan notes have been provided. A revised stair plan with landing was presented at the meeting. Discussion proved that the new stair proposal would not actually work but would potentially block an entry door into the garage.

Revised Proposal – October 8, 2014

The revised plan includes an expanded wood deck area and new stair plan to access the rear upper level storage area.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The Commission will determine if the new revised plan meets all applicable *Policy & Design Guidelines*.

FOR/AGAINST: No one accepted Ms. Titus' invitation to speak either FOR or AGAINST the application.

MOTION: Based on compliance with *Policy & Design Guidelines – Accessory Buildings - Garages*, Mr. Duffy made a MOTION to APPROVE as submitted with the comment that he would rather not see the horizontal bar across the windows but just a four-light pattern. Mr. Lenhart seconded.

VOTE: 7/1 AYES: BENDER, CORBUS, DUFFY, LENHART, MARSHALL, SULLIVAN, YARBROUGH

NAYS: TITUS

DECISION: APPLICATION FOR GARAGE APPROVED

APPLICATION: HDC 2014-164 – 1319 Thomas Avenue – Rear Yard Accessory Building, and Fencing.

This application was continued from September. Revised plans now include 1) Building heights, 2) Notes for trees to remain, 3) Traditional building materials, 4) Plan note for a 4' fence height exception, 5) All architectural details.

The existing house was constructed in 1920. The site is on the edge of the Plaza Midwood Local Historic District and located adjacent to a commercial parking lot on one side. An alley exists for access to multiple properties. A large rear yard garage/accessory building has been in place for many years. In the staff review, some Code issues became obvious regarding setbacks of the proposed rear yard ADU and this application was pulled from a recent HDC agenda to better understand and correct the issues.

Proposal – September 10, 2014

A new two story ADU (Accessory Dwelling Unit) is to be located near the rear property line with access from the alley. The structure will be detailed as a Victorian cottage with a wraparound porch. The existing accessory building will be renovated to become a higher roofed garage for an RV in the middle with auxiliary spaces to each side. Gable end facing street will have a new panelized garage door.

Proposal October 8, 2014

The revised plans reflect the changes from comments in September. Building heights and notes regarding trees, building materials, details and fencing are included in the plans. The new garage height is approximately 13'-4", the ADU is approximately 25'-6" and the existing home is approximately 30'-8".

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The Commission will determine if the application meets *Policy & Design Guidelines* for Garages - Accessory Structures and if an exception is warranted for the height of the front yard fence.

FOR/AGAINST: No one accepted Mr. Ristaino's invitation to speak either FOR or AGAINST the application.

MOTION: Based on compliance with *Policy & Design Guidelines – Accessory Buildings - Garages, Fences*, Mr. Sullivan made a MOTION to APPROVE as submitted making an exception regarding 4' front yard fence required by Code as a screen to the adjacent parking lot. Ms. Marshall seconded.

VOTE: 9/0 AYES: BENDER, CORBUS, DUFFY, LENHART, MARSHALL, RISTAINO, SULLIVAN, TITUS, YARBROUGH

NAYS: NONE

DECISION: APPLICATION FOR ACCESSORY BUILDING, GARAGE ADDITION, and FENCE APPROVED.

APPLICATION: HDC 2014-170 – 1817 Merriman Avenue – Addition

This application was continued from September for scaled, detailed drawings.

This one story brick house is on the edge of the Wilmore Local Historic District. A metal awning has been removed that covered the front terrace and entry. Steps lead down from the terrace parallel to the house.

Proposal - September 10

The plan is to add a shed roof supported by columns over the front terrace. A wooden rail will be added between the columns that is historically appropriate to the neighborhood and adequately detailed.

Proposal – October 8, 2014

Revised plans include details of the porch rail details, column and trim materials, and dimensions. A drawing shows the relationship of the new roof to the existing house.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The Commission will determine if the submitted drawings are explanatory and detailed to the degree that a decision can be made.

FOR/AGAINST: No one accepted Mr. Ristaino's invitation to speak either FOR or AGAINST the application.

MOTION: Based on compliance with *Policy & Design Guidelines – Additions*, Mr. Bender made a MOTION to APPROVE as submitted. Ms. Marshall seconded.

VOTE: 9/0 AYES: BENDER, CORBUS, DUFFY, LENHART, MARSHALL, RISTAINO, SULLIVAN, TITUS, YARBROUGH

NAYS: NONE

DECISION: APPLICATION FOR PORCH ADDITION APPROVED.
