

VIEUX CARRE COMMISSION

LaToya Cantrell
MAYOR

CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

Bryan Block
DIRECTOR

Minutes of the **Vieux Carré Commission** meeting of **Wednesday, May 1, 2019, 1:30 P.M.**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Nicholas S. Musso, Chairman
Daniel Taylor
Rick Fifield
Bill Keck (arrived during the discussion of 835 Orleans)
Adrienne Thomas
Angela King

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Patricia C. Denechaud
Mamie Gasperecz

STAFF PRESENT: Bryan D. Block, Director; Renée Bourgogne, Architectural Historian;
Nicholas G. Albrecht, Building Plans Examiner; Erin Vogt, Building Plans Examiner

STAFF ABSENT: Marguerite Roberts, Inspector
Tony Whitfield, Inspector

I. ROLL CALL

Chairman Musso called the meeting to order at approximately 1:30 PM. A quorum was established with the presence of five (5) of the nine (9) seated Commissioners present. **[Mr. Keck arrived during the discussion of 835 Orleans.]**

II. REVIEW OF MINUTES

Mr. Taylor moved, Mr. Fifield seconded, that the minutes of the Vieux Carré Commission meeting of April 3, 2019 be approved as previously circulated. The motion passed unanimously.

III. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Musso did not give a full report but noted that things were in the works to possibly expand the Architecture Committee with the addition of new members.

IV. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Block gave a short PowerPoint presentation of various review of VCC successes in the last year.

I. Old Business

1113 Bourbon St: 19-06398-VCGEN; Loretta Harmon, applicant; Joseph S Jr Difatta, owner; Proposal to add camelback addition to green-rated shotgun, per application & materials received 02/26/19 & 04/16/19, respectively.

<https://onestopapp.nola.gov/Redirect.aspx?SearchString=19-06398-VCGEN>

Ms. Vogt read the staff report with Ms. Harmon present on behalf of the application. With no discussion necessary, Mr. Taylor moved for **approval** with construction documents to be submitted to staff and the Architecture Committee for further review. Ms. Thomas seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business

329 N Front St: 19-11762-VCGEN; Steve Olson, applicant; Jackson Square Investment II LLC, owner; Proposal to install new gallery on the Conti and N. Front elevations of the building and

proposal to install new standing seam metal roofing, per application & materials received 02/12/19 & 04/12/19, respectively.

<https://onestopapp.nola.gov/Documents.aspx?ObjLabel=Permit&ID=802149>

Mr. Albrecht read the staff report with Mr. Olsen present on behalf of the application. Mr. Musso noted that there was a discussion of the color and finish of the metal roof at the Architecture Committee.

Mr. Taylor moved for the approval of the new gallery on the Conti and N Front elevations and the installation of a new standing seam metal roof with details to return to the Architecture Committee for final approval. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

APPEALS AND VIOLATIONS

626 Bourbon St: 17-06727-VCGEN; John C Williams, applicant; Grace T Granger LLC, owner; Appeal of Committee denial to remove balcony and install new gallery, per application & materials received 02/24/17 & 04/15/19, respectively.

<https://onestopapp.nola.gov/Redirect.aspx?SearchString=17-06727-VCGEN>

The matter was deferred prior to the meeting at the applicant's request. Mr. Taylor moved to defer the proposal for one meeting. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

835 Orleans Ave: 18-18408-VCGEN; Brian Begue, applicant; Max J Begue, owner;

Appeal of the Architecture Committee denial of a proposal to remove existing wood weatherboards from the Dauphine and Bourbon elevations of the main building and install new Hardiboard cement siding, per application & materials received 06/01/18.

<https://onestopapp.nola.gov/Documents.aspx?ObjLabel=Permit&ID=764144>

Mr. Albrecht read the staff report with Mr. Begue present on behalf of the application. Mr. Musso noted that Hardieboard was not recommended or allowed except in extreme circumstances. Mr. Begue stated that the Commission allowed the installation of Hardieboard on Port of Call in 1994. Mr. Musso stated that the question was not about the durability of the material but the appearance. Mr. Begue stated that there were public safety concerns with wood weatherboards and that the Hardie material doesn't burn.

Mr. Fifield stated that since 1994 the City Council has adopted new VCC guidelines that reexamined the use of all materials and that the 1994 example was not applicable.

Mr. Block questioned what the overall condition of the existing boards were. R. Begue stated that 70-80% can be sanded and repainted. Mr. Taylor stated that the majority of the boards are in good condition and that maintaining historic materials is important.

Ms. Thomas stated that the applicant should have to abide by the guidelines that all other property owners in the French Quarter must abide by. She moved for a denial of the appeal to install new Hardiboard cement siding per the VCC guidelines. Mr. Musso seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

515 St Philip St: 19-09241-VCGEN; Bain Colin, applicant; Lami LLC, owner;

Appeal of the Architecture Committee denial of a proposal to remove existing second floor louvered shutters and to install new board and batten shutters, per application received 03/27/19. **[Notice of Violation sent 11/06/18]**

There was no one present on behalf of the application. Mr. Albrecht stated that there may have been a miscommunication between the contractor and the owner. Mr. Fifield moved for a deferral for 30 days. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

II. RATIFICATION of Architectural Committee and Staff actions since the Wednesday, April 3, 2019 VCC meeting.

Mr. Taylor moved to ratify the Architecture Committee and Staff actions since April 3, 2019. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

With no other business to discuss, Mr. Taylor moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:00 pm.