



**MEETING MINUTES-WORKSESSION
HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION
March 11, 2016**

The Historic Landmarks Commission of the City of Palestine, Texas convened in a Worksession Meeting on March 11, 2016 at Palestine City Hall, 504 N. Queen Street, Palestine, Texas, with the following people:

Present: Barbara Jordan, Mickie Lamberth, Cindy Millichamp, Shirley Shaddock, Julie Abston, Linda Williams

Absent: Robb Stewart

Staff: Jacob Morris, HPO, Mark Miers, Building Official

A. CALL TO ORDER

Julie Abston called the Worksession to order at 2:02 PM.

B. CITIZEN COMMENTS

No comments.

C. DISCUSSION OF OPTIONS REGARDING HISTORIC PRESERVATION AD VALORUM TAX ABATEMENT

1. Discuss existing tax abatement and potential changes

HPO Jacob Morris presented examples of tax abatement wording found in other cities and advised HLC to review them in comparison to Palestine's abatement. He suggested that HLC consider possible changes based upon their desired outcome, be it increased designations, increased maintenance, or some other consideration. HLC discussed general ideas regarding changes.

D. DISCUSSION OF COMPLIANCE WITH DESIGN GUIDELINES

1. Discussion of compliance with design guidelines for historically designated properties

Commissioners discussed compliance. Commissioners discussed the impact on citywide code violations upon historic districts. Staff offered to assist as appropriate. Commissioner Millichamp summarized a recent trend towards development of Vacant Property ordinances, which often include requirement to insure, annual inspection, and sometimes other requirements. She indicated that they sometimes help property owners make timely decisions and develop strategies for future viability of the property.

E. DISCUSSION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS


Commission determined to follow up with the previous items and consider at a future meeting.

F. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 3:44 pm

ATTEST:


(Name), Chairman


(Jacob Morris, PhD, HPO)

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