

The following minutes are from the Historic Commission meeting on Tuesday, February 10, 2026, held in the Abita Springs Town Hall. The meeting convened at 6:01 P.M.

Commission Vice Chairman Monnot called the meeting to order. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Paul Vogt.

Commissioners Andre Monnot, Paul Vogt, Ron Blitch and Otto Dinkelacker were present. Commissioner Alissa Whitney was absent. Staff member Kristin Tortorich was also present.

#### **AGENDA MODIFICATION**

No modifications.

#### **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

The Commissioners reviewed the minutes of the January 13, 2026, meeting.

**Vice Chair Monnot motioned to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2026, meeting as submitted. Commissioner Blitch seconded the motion. All voted in favor.**

#### **ELECTION OF 2026 CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

**Commissioner Blitch motioned for Chairman Dinkelacker and Vice Chair Monnot to remain in those positions. Commissioner Vogt seconded the motion. All voted in favor.**

#### **CONSIDER CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS Abita Lumber, 21459 Hwy 36**

The application was for an exterior renovation. The scope of work proposed was to replace shingles on the towers with black shingles, remove dormers and replace porch roof shingles with charcoal gray standing seam, black gutters would change to charcoal gray, the parapet wall would match the photo provided in the application using all metal, the banner wall would be ivory with the sign background being burnished slate and icons to be added as shown in the photo. Additional scope includes painting all fiber cement siding and wood soffit to match the exterior of the building, change all remaining windows to Croft Series 20 black vinyl 2/2 vertical lite, and replace the front porch soffit with fiber cement and replace the fluorescent lights with can lights.

Applicant David Melton said the tower shingles faded over time but would be going back to their original color. The roof slope is to remain the same. Mr. Melton said the colors were suggested by the Hardware Coop, but he is open to suggestions. Commissioner Blitch suggested a gray shingle. David Melton said most shingles are a blend, and not all gray. Commissioner Blitch said he felt the proposed changes are an improvement with the exception of the Olympic type symbols. The Do It Best logo will be changed to the parapet wall, will be orange, and placed to the right side of the Olympic type symbols.

Commissioner Blitch commended David Melton for working with the Historic Commission for approvals on Abita Lumber projects, being an example for the lighting on signage in the Historic District, and for removing the fluorescent lighting.

David Melton asked if the Commission preferred the charcoal porch roof with burnished slate color behind the Abita signage or one color for both. Commissioner Blitch said the colors are close and compatible and that either choice is fine. When Mr. Melton asked about possibly have a black background for the signage, Chairman Dinkelacker suggested going with a lighter color due to the high temperatures here and the fact it would be on a roof. Mr. Melton said the road sign will remain as it is, matching the old building colors, until they decide whether to repair or replace the sign due to the digital lighting being broken. Chairman Dinkelacker said the roadside sign will need to be applied for at a later date. **Commissioner Blitch motioned to approve the application as**

**submitted. Vice Chairman Monnot seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Commissioner Blitch was assigned.**

**CONSIDER CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS 22265 Main Street**

The application was for a Fortified roof replacement using two types of shingles. Owner Mike Tusa said he has a soft spot, so the roofing company recommended rolled shingles on the lower pitched roof. **Chairman Dinkelacker motioned to approve the application. Commissioner Blitch seconded the motion. All voted in favor.**

**CONSIDER CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS 22146 Main Street**

The application was for window, siding, and door replacement and paint color. Owner Glynn Passman said he plans to start with the repairs at the back of the house and then move on to other areas of the house as possible. Commissioner Blitch said it is a Historic home on the Historic Register and noted the gingerbread brackets and handrail detail. The windows will be white aluminum with a powder coated finish. The siding will be Hardie board. Mr. Passman said only the windows at the back of house will be replaced at this time, but he plans to eventually replace the other windows. Commissioner Blitch reviewed the paint colors and said most homes have lighter trim and asked for confirmation of the colors. Mr. Passman said windows and window trim will be white, along with the posts and balusters. The screen frame will be black. The siding will be gray and the door would be red. The homeowners want more time to finalize the exact colors.

**Commissioner Blitch motioned to approve the application with colors to be approved once finalized. Chairman Monnot seconded the motion. All in favor. Commissioner Blitch is assigned.**

**CONSIDER CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS 71615 Bossier Avenue**

The application is for exterior renovation. Owner John Ellis said the main change would be a gable added over the front door and extending the bedroom window on the right side of the house. Commissioner Blitch said it would look much nicer with the proposed renovation. Chairman Dinkelacker asked if the small window on the left would be removed. Mr. Ellis confirmed the window would be removed due to the bathroom size being enlarged during the interior renovation. Board and batten will be installed around the whole house. Commissioner Blitch noted there is only one step up at the entrance now but the mock-up image shows three steps. Mr. Ellis confirmed there should only be one. The windows will be 2/1 black aluminum. Chairman Dinkelacker recommended avoiding putting any windows with horizontal proportions or squatted. There will not be a vertical muntin. The roof is only 7 years old, so it will be left alone for now.

**Chairman Dinkelacker motioned to approve. Commissioner Blitch seconded the motion. Chairman Dinkelacker is assigned.**

**DISCUSSION**

*Siding- Metal Board and Batten*

Kristin Tortorich explained that residents at 6<sup>th</sup> and Keller Streets want to build a garage and office space but want to make sure that the metal siding choice would be allowed. Commissioner Blitch said vinyl often doesn't look like true battens, but this metal product looks like it works and noted this would set a precedent. Commissioner Blitch said sample provide is a satin finish and noted it will become dull over time due to the sun. When asked why they chose metal, the resident said it was

due to the upkeep of the building material over time. Commissioner Blitch confirmed they were seeking conceptual approval now and full approval would be applied for once they have drawings of the structure. Chairman Dinkelacker said he was inclined to approve the material. Commissioner Blitch said that it should be approved very tightly as the material must be appropriately spaced and angled. Vice Chairman Monnot asked what wording should be used to avoid any issues in the future for materials that do not meet those standards. Discussion ensued. Vice Chairman Monnot said the concept is that it should have a sharp boundary to have the appearance of a separately affixed batten. Chairman Dinkelacker said it must be dimensionally stable, unlikely to warp and the profiles are clearly delineated to match the profile of real board and batten. Commissioner Blitch said it will need to be an addendum to the guidelines. Chairman Dinkelacker asked if the building would be an accessory or ancillary structure. Kristin Tortorich said yes and suggested it could be for accessory structures for now until we see how the product looks. Chairman Dinkelacker said he sees no issue with conceptual approval.

**OPEN COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

David Melton asked who manufactures the metal siding that was discussed. Chairman Dinkelacker said the product presented is made by Western States Metal Roofing.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Commissioner Blitch motioned to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman Monnot seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 P.M.**

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Kristin Tortorich, Planning & Zoning Director

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Date