



# Cornelia Historic Preservation Commission

Tuesday, March 19, 2024 1:00 p.m  
Downstairs Administrative Conference Room

1. Meeting called to order by Perry Rettig at 1:06 pm, seconded by Shawn Knight, all in favor.
2. Joe Rothwell head of Preservation from the Georgia Regional Commission introduced himself to familiar and new members of the HPC.
  - Joe went into details regarding his background from growing up in Jacksonville FL and attending SCAD. Brought up the idea of how maintaining historic preservation can be a form of art.
  - Perry Rettig asked a question regarding the roles of HPC in Cornelia. Joe's response was that as a board we are meant to be the educators of these concepts. We are meant to uphold these principles of preservation and help people understand their importance.
  - Joe went over the influences that the HPC can have over the community. These influences included history, stories, protect landmarks, and artistry.
  - Perry asked a question regarding the property values effected by preservation. Joe went into detail regarding the effects of property value. Joe talked about how improvements in general make the value go up whether they are trying to preserve or not. Joe also claimed that the overall control that the HPC has in the historical district does help keep property values. As nobody can demolish or make changes without the approval of the HPC.
  - After the presentation concluded the board discussed that we need to find a way to show people what it is that we do for the community. Because it was determined that not many know the HPC exists or what it does.
  - Perry Rettig suggested an end of the year audit either put together by one the members or the city staff. This way the board can release it to the public and when new property is restored, they know who is responsible for the preservation. The board will keep that in mind for the remainder of this year.
  - Joe made one last gesture to the board regarding any further questions. Joe reminded the whole board, especially city staff member Noah Hamil that he is available to come to our monthly meetings. As he could be a useful source of information regarding COA's submitted by business owners. Noah Hamil claimed he would keep that in mind with future meetings.
3. Next Regular Board Meeting: **Tuesday, April 16** at the Downstairs Commissioners Conference Room at 1:00 p.m.
4. Motion Adjourn made by Perry Rettig, seconded by Gay Davis, all in favor.

Present: Perry Rettig, Gay Davis, Shawn Knight, Noah Hamil, Jessie Owensby

Absent: Emily Herrin, Don Higgins

Guests: Joe Rothwell