MINUTES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting of August 5, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

Room 1W2
Carrollton City Hall

The following members were in attendance:

Robert Boston (Vice Chair)
Julie Hall
Carole Lucio
Ronald Park (Chair)
Lark Tribble

Sara Salmon (Member Emeritus)

Christopher Barton, AICP (Secretary)

The following members were absent:

Charlene Gaffney
Mia Marzullo
Jo Moody

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Park called for corrections or approval of the minutes of the June 3, 2009 meeting.

Motion by Tribble, second by Boston, to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2009 meeting as presented.

Motion passed, 5 – 0.

Discussion & Consideration of the
Simms Chapel Markerl

Park asked about the location of the Simms Chapel building, and its relationship to the Carrollton Black Cemetery.

Consensus of the Committee was that the marker was not doing any good in storage.

> *Motion by Tribble, second by Hall, to recommend that the marker for the Simms Chapel be relocated and reinstalled at the Carrollton Black Cemetery.*
>
> *Motion passed, 5 – 0.*

Tribble thought it might be appropriate to create a "companion" marker in the future, as had been done for the Union Baptist Church.

Discussion & Consideration of the
Blanton Grain Elevator

Tribble explained that this case narrative was a rough draft. It seemed appropriate to use the grain elevator structure itself is a "springboard" to a larger discussion of the development and importance of agriculture in general and the Blanton family in particular to Carrollton and north Texas.

Tribble stated that she had a deed from the 1800's selling the land the elevator is now on from A.W. Perry to Ned Welch: a freed slave who is now buried in the Carrollton Black Cemetery.

Additionally, Tribble said that HPAC now had permission and "buy-in" from Lee Groves – the current land owner. She is now interviewing him, and the Blanton family is now looking through their old records and mementos. According to some of this information, L.F. Blanton (full name? relationship to family?) moved here from Kansas. W hen he did, there was virtually no grain for human consumption being grown in the area. This was a feed mill for livestock. L.F. was one of the people who helped start the grain industry in north Texas.

A likely marker dedication date would be May 15, 2011, as the existing elevator was originally contracted to be completed on that date in 1950.

Tribble said that she had only found one photo in a newspaper showing them building the elevator. Nor had she found a photo of the illuminated blue cross placed on the building each Christmas. She was continuing to look.

> *General discussion over the contractor who built the elevator: Johnson-Sampson Construction Company. Apparently they also built the P.C. Cobb Stadium on Stemmons Freeway at Oak Lawn Avenue (site of the current InfoMart in Dallas)*

and the Dallas Theater Center/Kalita Humphreys Theater (3636 Turtle Creek Boulevard, Dallas) which was designed by Frank Lloyd Wright.

Tribble needed to know when the "Lee Groves Electric" sign on the top house was placed. Did anyone know? She thought it was prior to the "Robert Tilton World of Faith" sign lower down.

It always surprised Tribble that the Blantons are hardly known today, as they were very important to the community, being Mayors and State Representatives, as well as business and community leaders.

Discussion & Consideration of
Other Current Projects

1. First Baptist Centennial: Marker ordered. Dedication date is Wednesday, December 16, 2009. An invitation should be designed and sent out about mid-November.

2. Union Baptist Church "Companion" Marker: The dedication date is to be in May, 2010 (114 years after dedication of the site). In order to meet that date, the marker should be ordered about November 2009. The marker text has been created.

3. Carrollton Depot: Hall & Lucio said that they had not made any progress since the site visit in April. If a marker was to be placed in December 2010, the case report should be complete about late spring of 2010.

4. Rainbow Grill: Case narrative complete, pending insertion of footnotes. Boston said he would look through the case narrative and try to find an appropriate marker dedication date – possibly December 14, 2011 (date in 1929 the name "Rainbow Pharmacy" was created). Boston also said he would investigate the possibility of placing the marker on a wall inside the building, perhaps near the west end of the soda counter. The alternative would be somewhere on the square, across the street.

Other Business

- Park pointed out that the annual Boards & Commissions "Meet and Greet" event was scheduled for Monday, August 10, 2009. It would be in the council chambers in City Hall, and would start at 6:30 p.m. Although attendance was not required of current members, any who wanted to meet prospective members were encouraged to attend.

- Park & Tribble asked for the Historic Resource Survey to be added to the agenda of the meeting of September 2 meeting for discussion.

- Park noted that elections for new officers would be coming up soon, in October.

Adjournment

Motion by Boston, second by Hall, to adjourn. 8:15

Motion passed, 5 – 0.

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Ron Park, Chair
Historic Preservation Advisory Committee

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Christopher Barton, AICP
Secretary