



402 LEE STREET
DECATUR, ALABAMA 35601
March 20, 2025
MINUTES

Council Chambers

Architectural Review Board

4:00 PM

I CALL MEETING TO ORDER 4:00 PM

Roll Call:

Present: Ellis Chenault, Barbara Kelly, Patrick Rasco, Jacob Woods

II APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 13, 2025

Vote: Motion made by Jacob Woods to approve the Minutes as submitted, seconded by Barbara Kelly. Unanimous approval, motion carried.

III EXPEDITED CoAs SINCE THE JANUARY MEETING:

421 6th Avenue SE (Dupper) install HVAC at rear of house (#41 for the CoA)
626 Sherman Street SE (Mosher) renew expired CoA for 6 additional months (#72 for the CoA)
1020 Sherman Street SE (Taylor) new roof (#47 for the CoA)
814 Gordon Drive SE (Jacobs) renew expired CoA for 6 additional months (#72 for the CoA)
421 6th Ave SE (Dupper) alter curb cut width per City Engineer requirements (#69 for the CoA)

IV NEW CoA REVIEWS:

CoA #1: 645 Moulton Street SE (McIntosh)

Background: House is located in the Albany district. Staff received a call about a new porch on the front of the house. The homeowner calls the structure an awning, and notes that although it has a roof it is movable, and only placed against the house in the sunnier months to block strong light into the house. Structure is called an awning, but it looks like/functions as a gazebo.

Action Requested: Property owner would like to keep the movable awning installed during the spring and summer months.

Decatur's Design Review Standards: 5.0 Awnings and Canopies Window awnings should be of canvas or a similar material. 5.4 Select awnings of traditional design. Shed type awnings are the most appropriate designs in parallel with the horizontal line of the door and window frames.

18. Pools, Fountains, gazebos and Pergolas 18.1 Structures such as gazebos and pergolas should be constructed of wood or brick and complement the associated primary building. 18.2 Gazebo and pergola structures should not obscure views or damage historic features of the associated primary building. 18.3 Locate gazebos, fountains, and pergolas out of, or with limited, public view in rear or side yards.

Staff Assessment: The structure does not appear to meet the standards for an awning, alternatively, if categorized as a gazebo, as installed, it does not appear to meet those standards either.

Discussion: Applicant states the structure was constructed to provide shade during the summer months. Jacob Woods stated that the design of the structure was not appropriate for the house and needs to be keeping with the style of the house. Inquired about a metal awning that would be period appropriate. Barbara Kelly stated that the guidelines needed to be followed, and there might be other products that can assist with shielding the sun that would be more appropriate.

Vote: Motion made by Jacob Woods to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted. Seconded by Barbara Kelly. Zero votes in favor of the motion. Motion fails to pass.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 4:30 by Patrick Rasco, seconded by Barbara Kelly. Unanimous approval, motion carried. Meeting adjourned.