Auburn Historic Preservation District Minutes April 4, 2017

The Auburn Historic Preservation Board met on Wednesday April 4, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

Present were: Kris Gill, Shane Charbonnet and Cody Bradley.

Absent were: Peggy Kuser and Janny Crotty

Guests were: Kim Beger-City Staff Person, David Grant and Jeff Allgood with Auburn State Bank.

Chairperson Kris Gill stated that this is an open meeting and the Open Meeting Act is on the north wall of the Council Chambers.

The minutes from January 23, 2017 we approved as written, Shane moved and Cody seconds. Approved.

Old Business Discussed:

What are the plans for 2017? Ideas that were discussed were outreach to the public, having pictures and such digitized and put on the website and having a masonry workshop and invite APS students.

New Business:

Auburn State Bank proposed the construction of a new building at the corner of Hwy. 75 and 13th Street. David Grant and Jeff Allgood with Auburn State Bank, handed out drawings of the proposed new building. They talked about the expansion of the bank and their intentions to demolish the current buildings to replace with a new structure. ASB explored remodeling the existing buildings instead of demo, but believe restoration wouldn't meet their current needs and would be more costly. A major part of their plan includes a vault that weighs 30 tons. The current limestone/basement foundation of the building is over 100 years old and would not be able withstand the additional weight. Renovation of the current buildings would ultimately be more costly than building a new structure. ASB stated that they are mindful of the Historic District and the bank's design will be brick with cast concrete. The architect has taken into consideration the brick and limestone buildings downtown. They will not be building a flashy bank. They asked what they needed to proceed with construction. AHPC expressed their concerns about tearing down contributing buildings within Auburn's historical district. AHPC told ASB that they needed to apply for a demolition/construction permit and the AHPC would vote on a decision soon after they receive the official request. The AHPC will send out a letter to ASB with their decision. ASB acknowledged AHPC's concerns about the demolition plans and intend to follow the processes in place, but ultimately plan to proceed with the new construction.

Next meeting will be called once the demo permit has been received.

Adjourned at 8:00 Respectfully submitted, Kim Beger