



**Historic District Commission  
MINUTES  
February 19, 2020**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Ed McClure, Paul Hively, Jessica Rush, Kelli Roberts, John Hagan, David Swearingen, Ashley Pledger

**OTHERS ATTENDING:**

Shey Bland – DTR Inc.  
Bonnie Bridges – Staff Attorney  
Jerry Carmichael – City Council  
Ethan Hunter – City Planner  
John McCurdy – Community Development Director  
Karen Wagaman – Chamber of Commerce

**PUBLIC FORUM**

McClure called the meeting to order and opened the public forum. The following people spoke in favor of the request by Daisy Airgun Museum: John Ford, JR Shaw, Brenda Hester, Ray Hobbs.

**ROLL CALL**

McClure asked for a roll call of commissioners present. All were present except John Carney.

**ACTION ON MINUTES**

The commission reviewed minutes from the 11/20/19 meeting. Hively motioned to approve the minutes as presented and Hagan seconded.  
Voice vote: YES (unanimous).  
Motion carried. Minutes ***APPROVED***.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. COA #20-01: A request by Daisy Airgun Museum for a Certificate of Appropriateness for proposed building signage at 202 W. Walnut Street.

This item was represented by Joe Murfin. He explained his request to allow a 25' replica Daisy Red Ryder BB Gun affixed to the east side of the Daisy Airgun Museum. He highlighted the Daisy Museum as a cornerstone of Rogers's history, and outlined the potential tourism and economic development benefits of such an attraction in downtown. He stated that this request was inspired by similar over-sized replica installations across the nation, and proceeded to provide an overview of the fabrication specifications and details. Swearingen asked about the material of the gun. Murfin replied that the gun is comprised of interior foam and aluminum pole framing with an epoxy-coated shell.

After Murfin's presentation, McClure asked for a motion on the item to allow commission discussion. Hively motioned to approve the request as presented and Rush seconded.

Hively asked about the durability of the epoxy. Roberts asked about the scale of the installation and why it is proposed in its specific location, since this would end up making such a “statement.” Murfin replied that it was primarily due to the sidewalk along 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and to prevent obstructing any windows or special building features. Commissioners asked Murfin about the dimensions of the portion encroaching into the sidewalk. Pledger asked Murfin about the security of the structure and whether it could withstand inevitable climbing. Murfin elaborated on the structural support and deferred to the engineering process required for fabrication.

Pledger expressed slight concern over setting a precedent by approving this “landmark” as a sign that is unique to the building tenant rather than the district overall, and any possible implications that has on the Commissions responsibility to protect building character and historical integrity. She suggested that the Commission consider updating the Design Guidelines to allow for special considerations such as this.

Hagan stated that, while he understands it is a Daisy BB Gun, it is difficult to read the Red Ryder logo and there is “just something about a big gun” and the message it sends. Roberts added that there’s not much context unless you know what Daisy is. Murfin acknowledged these concerns and added that realistic historical context is important, which is why he is taking care to accurately label and advertise the installation. Swearingen provided a statement of support for the request and acknowledged Daisy’s important history and contributions to Rogers.

Roll call vote: YES (unanimous), ABSTAIN (McClure).

Motion carried. Request ***APPROVED***.

2. Annual re-election of officers.

Hively motioned to keep the current slate of officers and Hagan seconded.

Voice vote: YES (unanimous).

Motion carried. ***McClure remains Chairman, Roberts remains Vice-Chairman, and Pledger remains Secretary.***

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

**ADJOURN**

Hively motioned to adjourn the meeting and Rush seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 PM.