**HAHIRA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

**STUDY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**OCTOBER 8, 2014**

**10:00 A.M.**

**COMMUNITY CENTER**

The Hahira Historic Preservation Commission met for a meeting at the Community Center.

Present: Mayor Bruce Cain, Councilmember Mason Barfield, Nancy Parrott, Harriett Crum, Tim Coombs, Melba Locher, City Manager Jonathan Sumner, Emily Foster(Valdosta Historic Preservation) and City Clerk Lisa Mashburn.

City Manager Sumner stated that the purpose of this meeting is for information only. We have not formed the Hahira Historic Preservation Commission. Emily Foster with the City of Valdosta and City Manager Sumner have reviewed all the documentation from the past Commission when Dr. Jesse Parrott was Mayor. He said that the City of Hahira had a commission with members and guidelines but that no district map was adopted in the past. Sumner said that when Mayor John Adams was in office that a modified map was drawn up but it to was not adopted but that they still had the HPC. He stated that nothing has been done for the last 15 years and it was suggested that we form a study committee with the Hahira Historical Society. Sumner said that this is not a commission that it is only a study commission and advisory body.

1. **ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON**

Emily Foster stated that the first step would be to elect committee chairperson. She stated that you need a leader or a speaker for the group. Tim Coombs nominated Harriett Crum but she declined. Sumner asked if anyone would like to be chairperson. Tim Coombs was nominated as committee chairperson.

1. **INFORMATION ABOUT CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAM, BENEFITS AND REQUIREMENTS**

Emily Foster stated that there is technical assistance and grant funding from the state where money is allotted each year. She said that only registered certified local governments get the funding. Councilmember Barfield asked about the grants, what has happened to grants in the last few years and what kind of money are we talking about. Emily stated that there are two main grants, Historical Preservation funds in the amount of $200,000 is given to communities and/or the Georgia Preservation fund in the amount of $100,000 for the whole state is given out. This is from the sale of Georgia preservation license plates. Foster stated that the Historical Commission has strings attached to the fund. She said you go through the paperwork, apply and match eligible expenses and it is an easy process. She said that this is usually a match for the grant, volunteer time to match. She said it is a community friendly process. Tim Coombs asked if the properties are listed on National register. Emily said to put them on the National register is a more complicated process, she said it identifies property it does not protect it. City Manager Sumner said that he really appreciates Emily Foster’s time and stated that the local design protects the properties.

1. **HISTORIC DISTRICT DISCUSSION:**
2. **DISTRICT CRITERIA**
3. **PREVIOUS DISTRICT SUGGESTIONS**
4. **MAP OF PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED HISTORIC RESOURCES**

Emily Foster said that she reviewed the past boundaries and that they were good but rather large, but that they met the criteria.

Councilmember Barfield asked if you create a district is it all properties in the district? Foster said that you would look at each house and pick certain properties and then put them in the Historical District. You have to go to each house and go over the criteria and identify each property. The local people decide. Emily said that the next step is to decide to do the survey or not. You take the list of resources and use that as a starting point. Councilmember Barfield said you start small and then expand. She said you would have to get with the local business owners and have a public hearing. You would need to do a pro and con list and then have a training session for the Commission.

It was decided that the next meeting will be held on November the 29th at 10:00 a.m. and should be about two hours. She asked that everyone review the information given to them and the study committee would go from there.