



DeKalb County Government Planning & Sustainability Department

**Government Services Center
178 Sams Street
Decatur, Georgia 30030**



Minutes

**Tuesday, January 20, 2026
6:00 pm
via Zoom**

Historic Preservation Commission

**Olivia Hallquist, Chair
Joe Rothwell, Vice-Chair
Stacey Thibodeaux
Clayton Daspit
Ellen Rankin
Haley Harben
Dennis McConnell**



Lorraine Cochran-Johnson
Chief Executive Officer

Planning & Sustainability Department

Current Planning Zoning Division

178 Sams Street
Decatur, GA 30030

Juliana A. Njoku
Director

Historic Preservation Commission

Tuesday, January 20, 2026 @ 6:00 PM

This meeting was held via Zoom

HPC Members	Present	Absent
Olivia Hallquist, Chair	✓	
Joe Rothwell, Vice-Chair	✓	
Clayton Daspit		X
Dennis McConnell	✓	
Ellen Rankin	✓	
Haley Harben	✓	
Stacey Thibodeaux		X

Staff present: Paige Jennings, David Cullison, Debora Wells, and Attorney Valerie Ross

Meeting started at 6:00 pm

1. Welcome
2. Applications for Certificate of Appropriateness
Applicants and others may speak for or against an application for a certificate of appropriateness or an application for comment, and each side will have five minutes to present its case. In reviews of zoning code applications, each side will have ten minutes.

Consent Agenda

Items moved for approval: A and B

Item moved to the Regular Agenda: None

Motion by: Joe Rothwell

Second: Haley Harben

Vote: 5-0

- A. 467 Burlington Road, James Johnson. Install pervious paver system with turf and gravel and a pervious brick and stone step walkway in backyard. **1247942**
- B. 1206 Oakdale Road, Bruce Meller. Construct an enclosed porch on the rear of a historic house. **1247949**

Regular Agenda

C. 1036 Oxford Road, Alan Clark. Replace windows on the front of elevation of house. Construct new, rear addition. **1247902** deferred from December's meeting for additional document.

Applicant Alan Clark and Harry Rowland spoke in support of the application and presented historic research conducted prior to the meeting.

Motion by: Ellen Rankin

Second: Joe Rothwell

Vote: 5-0

Approved Approved with modification Denied Deferred

D. 1035 Oxford Road, Ben Darmer for Parkwood Living, LLC. Modify a previously approved COA to construct a nonhistoric house. **1247910** deferred from the December's meeting.

Motion by: Haley Harben

Second: Denniss McConnell

Vote: 5-0

Approved Approved with Modification Denied Deferred

Applicant Ben Darmer and Mike Wall spoke in support of application. Commissioner Haley Harben motioned to approve with the modification that the privacy fence only be installed in the backyard of the property and should not extend into the front yard or beyond the rear corners of nonhistoric house in accordance with Guideline 9.4, and that any other work that differs from the plans approved by the COA issued in April of 2025 is not included within this approval.

E. 1218 Springdale Road, John Plaster. Construct a rear addition and accessory structure, install a swimming pool, replace roofing, and limewash the exterior of a historic house. **1247951**

Motion by: Ellen Rankin

Second: Joe Rothwell

Vote: 5-0

Approved Approved with Modification Denied Deferred

Applicant John Plaster spoke in support of the application and clarified that the proposal to whitewash the historic structure and the proposed addition would be withdrawn.

Commissioner Ellen Rankin motioned for approval with modification that a 5' fence be installed around the in-ground pool in the backyard in order to meet DeKalb County Health Code requirements and that the limewashing of the masonry exterior of the historic house be denied in accordance with Guidelines 5.0, 6.1.1, 6.1.2, and 6.8 the Druid Hills Design Manual.

3. Approve minutes December 2025

Motion by: Joe Rothwell
Second: Ellen Rankin
Vote: 3-0-2, with Commissioners Harven and McConnell abstaining

4. Old business

5. New business

New County email will be issued to all Board members. Voting will take place at the end of our next meeting for new officials. Board training will take place in the second quarter.

6. Adjourned at 7:00 pm

Motion by: Dennis McConnell
Second: Haley Harben
Vote: 5-0

Meeting Adjourned at 7:00 pm

Meeting Recording: https://dekalbcountyga.zoom.us/rec/share/1fwbeD78AHgcEbhFYPPBtTmB8TU-JoTPj9HWh_wMcDY2i1bwq06q8LFs2LaVT4Vrl.iVJRiEEQrlmvdCad?startTime=1768949166000
Passcode: qbxe%3c