

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
OFFICIAL MINUTES

July 28, 2021

5:00 pm

Council Board Room
One Batavia City Centre, Batavia NY

Members present: *Connie Boyd, Sharon Burkel, Ryan Duffy, Caroline Hosek*

Members absent: Alexis Green

Others present: Meg Chilano – Recording Secretary, Ron Panek - Code Enforcement Officer

I. Roll Call

Roll call of the members was conducted. Four members were present.

II. Call to order

Chair Sharon called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

III. Previous Meeting Minutes

Ms. Burkel wanted the minutes corrected to note that she had read from a memo written by Matt Worth. The memo had given the HPC instructions on how to table applications that were deemed incomplete. The minutes were approved as corrected by unanimous consent.

RESULT: Approval of June 23, 2021 meeting minutes.

IV. Proposals

- A. Proposal #1: place a non-permanent fairy garden in front of the black railing on the Bank Street side of the building. The project would also include painting a mural on the side portion of the ramp facing Bank Street

Address: *201 East Main Street*

Applicant: Go Art!

- Actions:**
1. Review application for completeness
 2. Public hearing
 3. Discussion and action by the board

1. Review Application for Completeness

The board agreed that the application was complete.

2. Public Hearing

Ms. Burkel opened the public hearing at 5:16 p.m. Gregory Hallock, Executive Director of Go Art! told the board that the idea for the fairy garden originated with the question of how to

draw visitors to Genesee County and entice them to walk around after they have arrived. The idea is for every town in the county to create doors that open into gardens. Batavia is the designated test site for the idea.

Mr. Hallock would like to begin the project with a fairy garden in the side yard of the Go Art! building. He put out a call for artists in the area to create the fairy garden doors.

Ms. Burkel closed the public hearing at 5:24.

3. Discussion and Action by the Board

Ms. Boyd asked if there are plans to extend the idea to involve homeowners, and Mr. Hallock answered yes, that he would like to provide an opportunity for a more extended walking tour through Batavia.

MOTION: Ms. Boyd moved to approve the project; Mr. Duffy seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.

RESULT: Approval of the application.

B. Proposal #2: replace the old shingles on a small portion of the roof with slate which would match the remainder of the roof

Address: 314 East Main Street

Applicant: Timothy and Elizabeth Jess

Actions:

1. Review application for completeness
2. Public hearing
3. Discussion and action

1. Review Application for Completeness

The board agreed that the application was complete.

2. Public Hearing

Ms. Burkel opened the public hearing at 5:27 p.m. Mr. Jess brought a sample of the slate shingles he will be using on the roof. He said that the small back portion of the roof needs to be replaced, and he has a large number of reclaimed slate shingles he intends to use for the project.

Ms. Burkel asked if Mr. Jess has enough slate shingles to cover the entire roof. According to Mr. Jess, he has enough shingles to cover the front part of the roof as well. The board expressed their appreciation for the work Mr. Jess has done on maintaining the original look of the house.

Ms. Burkel closed the public hearing at 5:32.

3. Discussion and Action by the Board

MOTION: Mr. Duffy moved to approve the project as presented; the motion was seconded by Ms. Hosek, and all voted in favor.

RESULT: Approval of the application.

V. New Business

A. Centennial Park designation

In attendance at the meeting was a group of residents interested in designating Centennial Park as an historic landmark.

Ms. Burkel related that she has scheduled a meeting with the City Manager at which she will bring up the question of designating the park and attempt to discover if designating a City-owned property is permitted.

If the answer is yes, she intends to start the procedure for obtaining the history of the property. It needs to be determined whether Centennial Park meets the criteria for an historic landmark.

Ms. Burkel recommended for the group to read the Batavia Municipal Code regarding the designation of historic landmarks.

B. Brisbane Mansion

According to Ms. Burkel, the City is looking for grants for surveying the building. She believes the City is preparing to begin work on the new Police Department, and wants to be involved in the discussion of the building's future.

C. Redfield Pillars

Ms. Burkel asked if the board would be interested in pursuing possible designation of the Redfield Pillars now that they have been repaired. The board agreed that the effort should be made.

Ms. Burkel also addressed the issue of tabling proposals if they are considered incomplete. She noted that if the BMC could be amended to allow the board more time to consider proposals, it would resolve the issue of tabling. She told the board that she would bring up the topic at her meeting with the City Manager.

VI. Adjournment

Ms. Boyd moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:14 p.m.; Mr. Duffy seconded the motion. All voted in favor.


Meg Chilano
Recording Secretary