

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes

Wednesday August 27, 2014

6:00 pm

City Hall, One Batavia City Centre, Batavia NY

Members Present: *Joan Barton, Sharon Burkel, Larry Barnes, Paul Schulte, Ashley Bateman, Teresa Siverling, Henry Emmans*

Others Present: Nann Zorn, Jeff Donahue, Ron Panek – City of Batavia Code Enforcement Officer, Janice Smith – Recording Secretary

The meeting was opened at 6:02 pm by Chairperson, Joan Barton.

I. Approval of Meeting minutes for July 2014:

Motion by: Paul Schulte

Motion was made to approve the meeting minutes for July 2014

Seconded by: Teresa Siverling

Vote for: 7

Abstained: 0

Vote against: 0

II. Public Hearings:

A. 302 East Main Street – Parking Sign. Nann Zorn was present to explain the project. The First Presbyterian Church of Batavia proposed to add a directional sign in front of their property on East Main Street. The sign would be 4 sq ft, white with black lettering and a handicap symbol in blue.

Motion by: Larry Barnes

Motion was made to approve the directional sign for First Presbyterian Church of Batavia.

Seconded by: Teresa Siverling

Vote for: 7

Abstained: 0

Vote against: 0

B. 302 East Main Street – Digital Reader Board Sign Concept. Nann Zorn was present to explain the project. Currently they have a letter board sign and the First Presbyterian Church is debating on changing it to a digital sign. They would like the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) to give their input before they go any further. If approved, the First Presbyterian Church would have to bring the final design back in front of the HPC. Ms. Zorn brought in pictures of ideas of other churches in the area that have digital signs. They would like to keep the overall size and decor of the current sign but where the letter board part is it would be a digital sign. Mr. Barnes stated that he didn't see an issue if the sign was going to stay the same shape except for the letter board area changing to a digital reader board.

HPC started a discussion about digital signs. Mrs. Burkel said that the commission is responsible to keep the integrity of the building. And a digital sign would not go with the integrity of the building. Ms. Burkel also stated that once you open the door to digital signs it opens it up to other historic buildings. Mrs. Siverling stated that they could approve it with limits, such as dimensions and proportions that would be digitized. She also said that they would be opening the door but they would be setting the parameters. Mrs. Burkel said once you open that door you cannot say no to other people. Mrs. Burkel stated again that a digital

sign takes away from the integrity of the building. She also stated that she didn't think they are appropriate for historic buildings.

Motion by: Teresa Siverling

Motion was made to approve the digital sign for First Presbyterian Church of Batavia.

Seconded by:

Vote for: 1 (Henry Emmans)

Abstained: 0

Vote against: 6 (Joan Barton, Sharon Burkel, Larry Barnes, Paul Schulte, Ashley Bateman, Teresa Siverling)

III. New Business:

A. Holland Land Office Museum 101 West Main Street– Jeff Donahue – banners.

Mr. Donahue stated that the Holland Land Office Museum (HLOM) would like to add banners showcasing special events to the building. Since these are temporary banners and are only up for a short period of time, they do not need a permit. These vinyl banners will be placed in between the columns. Mr. Barnes wanted to note that the HPC has no jurisdiction regarding these banners. Mr. Donahue understood that this is purely a courtesy to have the HPC review the banners. Mr. Donahue stated that he would send the banners to HPC prior them going up.

IV. Communications sent & received:

A. Brian Colton of Master Core Restorations – 33 Ross Street. Mrs. Barton spoke with Brian Colton about restoring 33 Ross Street. Mrs. Barton explained that the HPC board was concerned with keeping the outside in kind. Mr. Colton told Mrs. Barton that he would like to stay in contact with the HPC and keep them updated with the progress. He stated that he will need to replace some siding, windows, tongue and groove. He asked Mrs. Barton if he needs to keep everything in kind, and Mrs. Barton stated that he would not have to keep everything in kind but would need to go in front of the HPC.

B. Todd Warfield of Planned Parenthood – 222 West Main Street – new fence. Mr. Warfield stated that they would like to put a fence on the East side of the property. He was asking to see what type of fence the HPC board would approve. Wrought iron or picket fence would be considered (See attached for Boston picket fence). He is unsure where the fence will be located and the height of the fence. Ms. Siverling stated that if Mr. Warfield needs someone to do a site visit she would be willing.

V. Old Business:

A. Bateman Home 27 Summit Street. (Correction to Agenda Carlino Home) Mrs. Bateman asked what the limitations are when you designate a home and how you go about getting your house designated. The HPC can only vote on what is exterior. She was advised to finish what she is currently doing and then once it is done have the home designated.

VI. Adjournment:

Motion by: Ashley Bateman

Motion was made to close the meeting.

Seconded by: Teresa Siverling

Vote for: 7

Vote against: 0

Meeting closed at 7:18 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Janice Smith