

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes

Wednesday October 22, 2014

6:00 pm

City Hall, One Batavia City Centre, Batavia NY

Members Present: *Joan Barton, Sharon Burkel, Paul Schulte, Ashley Bateman, Teresa Siverling,*
Others Present: Ron Panek – Code Enforcement Officer, Janice Smith – Recording Secretary

The meeting was opened at 6:00 pm by Chairperson, Joan Barton.

I. Approval of Meeting minutes for August 2014:

Motion by: Paul Schulte

Motion was made to approve the meeting minutes for August 2014

Seconded by: Teresa Siverling

Vote for: 5

Abstained: 0

Vote against: 0

II. Communications sent & received: None

III. Old Business:

A. Tim Stoddard Jackson Street – Contacting Cynthia Howk at WNY Landmark Society for proper methods to clean and protect the brick. Mrs. Barton explained that she spoke with Mr. Stoddard over the phone. He told her that last month he went to the wrong location for the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) meeting. Mrs. Barton gave Mr. Stoddard Cynthia Howk's name and number at the WNY Landmark Society. Mrs. Barton explained to Mr. Stoddard that Ms. Howk had information about different materials he could use to clean the paint off the building.

B. Scott Treutlein Warsaw Theatre – contacting Cynthia Howk at the WNY Landmark Society. Mrs. Barton reported that she spoke with Mr. Treutlein about contacting Ms. Howk at the WNY Landmark Society. Mr. Treutlein explained to Ms. Barton that he believed he was not in the historic district in Warsaw. Mr. Treutlein explained that he was unsure if he would like to pursue getting involved with the WNY Landmark Society, because of the restrictions that may be placed on him. Mrs. Barton explained the City of Batavia's Historic Preservation Commission and what regulations they can enforce.

C. 431 East Main Street (Dipson house) – Chimney renovations complete. Mrs. Barton stated that the chimneys are all done at that project. The roof was finished as well. Mrs. Barton stated that they turned out very nice.

IV. New Business:

A. 113 Jackson Street (Pringle House) – discussion on four original chimneys. Ron Panek stated that he did a final inspection. Mr. Panek said that as of October 21, 2014 all violations were corrected. He removed the condemnation letters off the doors. He stated that Mr. Guy Pellegrino has brought the property up to code. Mr. Panek explained to Mr. Pellegrino that the house would need two more chimneys which would make a total of four chimneys since that is how the house was originally constructed. He reconstructed the chimneys with like

materials, which is brick that is similar to the house. There was no style change to the property. The property was brought back to its original look. Some of these chimneys are still in use.

B. Proposals for 10 West Main Street – Police Department (Old City Hall). Mrs. Barton read an email from Larry Barnes regarding the proposals for the new police department. Mr. Barnes stated that he feels that if the police department moves out of 10 West Main Street, it will spell doom for the building. He feels that the building is in better hands with the City.

Mrs. Barton explained that there was an amount of money set aside for renovations to 10 West Main if the Police Department moves somewhere else. Mrs. Barton already expressed to Jason Molino, City Manager, that she likes the idea of taking off the addition and adding a larger addition to it. Sharon Burkel asked if the architects would come down and give some kind of presentation before the final decision. Mr. Panek stated that he did not have that information. Mrs. Siverling asked if asbestos would have to be removed before the City could sell 10 West Main Street. Mr. Panek stated he was unsure but said there are no requirements as per the code.

Mrs. Burkel expressed her feelings that she would like to keep a police department downtown. Mrs. Siverling stated that her perception of the community is that they want to keep a police presence downtown. Some of the sites that are being looked at are Della Penna site (40-52 Ellicott Street), Santy's tire (56-70 Ellicott Street), and Salvation Army (96-98 Jackson Street). Mrs. Siverling also stated that the Della Penna building is no longer being looked at because it may interfere with the Brownfield Opportunity Area. Mrs. Barton brought up that both of these sites are in the flood zone. Mrs. Barton asked Mr. Panek if a city building would have to have flood insurance when it is in the flood zone. Mr. Panek stated that it would but there are ways to bring it up out of the flood zone, such as they can raise the elevation of the building. Mr. Panek went on to say, that an elevation certificate will give you your true elevation in relation to base flood elevation. The base flood elevation could be located in the basement. It will tell insurance companies how much of your building is in the flood zone. Mrs. Siverling asked Mr. Panek if parking facilities can be in the flood zone. Mr. Panek stated that they can, as long as the water can go through the parking area. Mrs. Siverling asked if the City has insurance on the vehicles to cover the cost if the vehicles were all flooded and had damage. Mr. Panek stated if you look at past experience, building a police department in the flood zone should not be a concern.

Mrs. Barton stated that with a police department fairly centrally located downtown, there is a perceived notion that you can have direct access to the police in the police department building at night. Mrs. Burkel stated that a few years ago there was a woman who tried to get a hold of police after dark and she was not able to get into the building. Mr. Panek explained that we do have officers 24 hrs a day but that the building is locked after a certain time. The county and the city consolidated a few years ago and dispatch is now located with the county and all calls are routed through the county.

Mrs. Siverling also brought up that if the building is expanded at 10 West Main Street, there would be an inadequate amount of parking. She stated that maybe there would be another option where police can park their personal vehicles in a different city lot. Another issue that was brought up about the current location, 10 West Main, was the trouble police have exiting out on West Main Street. Mrs. Siverling was interested in seeing if the City may be able to put a dedicated stoplight at that driveway. Mrs. Barton stated that if the police department is on Ellicott Street, police would have a problem getting out of the driveway due to traffic.

Mrs. Barton also stated that the current police department building will have a hard time finding someone to buy the property and take care of it. Any buyer would know that there are issues to the building now that need to be taken care of because this has been widely publicized.

C. 101 Washington Avenue – fence. Ashley Bateman asked if anyone knew what was happening with the fence at 101 Washington Avenue. Mrs. Bateman stated that it looks as if it is in middle of being repaired. There is a block that looks like it is a temporary measure to fix the railing but it has been like that for over a month now. Mrs. Barton will look into this and see if she gets a reply.

V. Adjournment:

Motion by: Teresa Siverling

Motion was made to close the meeting.

Seconded by: Sharon Burkel

Vote for: 5

Vote against: 0

Meeting closed at 6:54 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Janice Smith