

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Official Minutes

Wednesday, April 24, 2019

5:00 pm

City Hall, One Batavia City Centre, Batavia New York

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

Others Present: Janice Smith – Recording Secretary, Ron Panek—Code Enforcement Officer

I. Call to order:

The meeting was opened at 5:01 pm by Chairman Sharon Burkel.

II. Approval of minutes:

Motion by: Ryan Duffy

Motion was made to approve the meeting minutes for March 2019.

Seconded by: Connie Boyd

Vote for: 4

Abstained: 0

Vote against: 0

III. Public Hearings:

A. 39 Ellicott Avenue – Porch Repairs. Ms. Fisher was there to explain her project. She explained that the porch is in need of repair. The project is to replace the stairs, add new newel posts, take off the current decorative trim and make new decorative trim that will match for the ones that are rotten. All of the wood will be repainted to match the current color. Ms. Fisher stated that the stairs will have one less step to keep in accordance with NYS law. Currently the steps are mixed heights and are not code compliant.

Mr. Panek explained that per NYS Law there has to be rot resistant material for the first 18” from the ground. It was discussed that Ms. Fisher could use any type of rot resistant material, such as cedar or pressure treated. Ms. Burkel asked if there could be an exception to that law since it is historic. Mr. Panek stated that there are a lot of exceptions because it is historic but that is not one of them.

Mr. Panek stated Per NYS Code the space in between each spindle has to be closer than what is proposed. It will be sufficient if Ms. Fisher adds at least one evenly spaced spindle with the trim.

Motion by: Caroline Hosek

Motion was made to approve the application as proposed with modification to the structure underneath, that it has to be made of a rot resistant material as well as there be at least four piece of decorative trim and spindles on the stairs.

Seconded by: Connie Boyd

Vote for: 4

Abstained: 0

Vote against: 0

- B. 12 Ellicott Street – Sign, archway additions, fence and color.** The restaurant owner, Mr. Guillermo, was there to explain the project. Mr. Guillermo explained that they would like to put a knee wall with arches in between the post in the front. Mr. Panek explained that they will need to leave a 6” gap between the concrete floor and the beginning of the knee wall. The center post has a wall with a window in the middle of it. Ms. Burkel asked if the window and the wall was necessary. Mr. Guillermo explained that he was trying to make it look nice. Ms. Burkel stated that she thought it would look better if each area in between the posts had the knee wall and an arch. Mr. Guillermo stated that he could do that.

Mr. Guillermo explained that he wanted to do a vinyl fence out front to give the restaurant a ranch feeling because it is called Rancho Viejo. Ms. Burkel asked Mr. Guillermo if he would be willing to use wood instead. Mr. Guillermo stated that he would. They discussed more of a wood split rail fence in the front.

In Mr. Guillermo’s proposal, there is orange stucco that he will put on the front of the building. The cream vinyl siding that is there now will be taken off and the orange stucco will be added. Mr. Guillermo would like to add a larger sign spelling out the name of the restaurant in large red letters. The HPC said that the Planning and Development Committee would have to approve his sign based on the City’s sign code.

Motion by: Sharon Burkel

Motion was made to approve the application as proposed with the modification that the wall with a window to be changed to a knee wall with an arch, all of the knee walls will have a 6” gap between the bottom and the concrete, and the fence will be made of wood.

Seconded by: Connie Boyd

Vote for: 4

Abstained: 0

Vote against: 0

IV. Communications Sent and Received:

- A. Meeting with City Manager.** City Manager, Martin Moore, addressed the Commission. Mr. Moore explained that as the Police Station project advances, he will discuss with HPC the plans of 10 West Main Street, the current police station. Mr. Moore also discussed Zombie houses and that he trying to continue a grant that identifies Zombie homes.

V. Old Business:

- A. Leaton Signs.** The signs were delivered to the City of Batavia. Ms. Smith showed one of the signs to the group.

VI. New Business:

- A. Next Meeting.** Next meeting is earlier than normal because there is a public hearing set for 5/15/19.

VII. Adjournment

Motion by: Ryan Duffy

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 pm.

Seconded by: Caroline Hosek

Vote for: 4

Vote against: 0

Janice Smith

Recording Secretary