

The City of Auburn
Historic Resources Review Board
c/o Office of Planning and Economic Development
Memorial City Hall - 24 South Street
Auburn, New York 13021
(315) 255-4115 Fax 253-0282

Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2014 7:00pm

Present: Michael Deming, Ed Onori, Paul McDonald, Richard Stankus, Jim Hutchinson, Betty Lewis

Staff Present: Christina Selvek

Meeting opened by Chair, Michael Deming.

Motion to approve the minutes of June 10, 2014 meeting made by Richard Stankus, seconded by Jim Hutchinson. All members vote approval. Michael Deming Abstains. Motion carried.

Chair opens Public to be Heard.

Chuck Mason, City Clerk: Brings the Board's attention to the new Novus agenda software that City Council, Planning Board, Zoning Board and now Historic Resources Review Board is using. Displays the City website on the Council Chambers screen and explains that with the new software board agendas are available on the City's website and in two formats- html and PDF (shows examples on the screen).

This new system allows the public to access and view all documents before Board meetings. It also allows you to view the information on your phone, tablet or laptop and untimely will reduce paper use. However, paper packets can still be made available to Board members. In the near future City Council will be paperless since they will be receiving tablets. At some point in the future we hope to have some type of a laptop or tablet bank that will be here for all Board members to use.

Christina Selvek will work with Board members on their preferences on receiving and viewing HRRB packets.

Richard Stankus: Questions if everyone, including the public, will be able to view Board packets and project information as well as past minutes?

Chuck Mason: Yes, this is for public view and everything will be stored from this point on so you will be able to view past meeting minutes.

Richard Stankus: Questions if the public can post comments.

Chuck Mason: Currently that is not available but it is feasible and is something we can do if the Board is interested.

Certificates of Appropriateness

39 Grover Street– Christina and Stephen Selvek: Application proposes to install new 6" half-round gutters along the rear of the house with a single 4" round downspout at rear of house.

Christina Selvek: my husband and I applied for the proposed Certificate of Appropriateness. We have had some major water infiltration over the past few years. Sheets of water run down the house into the back area and infiltrates into the basement. Therefore we are looking to put in

some gutters. There are not gutters on the house now. At some point there may have been a Yankee Gutter system. We are looking at doing a new half-round gutter system that would be Aluminum material and will match trim color on the house. *Refers to packet pictures* We chose half round because of the dental work and trim boards at the roof edge and at the eaves. Does the Board have any proposed changes?

Jim Hutchinson: Questions the downspout on the side of the house-refers to picture in packet.

Christina Selvek: That is all one collection system that will go into the one downspout. Ultimately we would like to extend it along the driveway side too because we get a lot of sheeting there but this year we are restricted with funds.

Chair asks for a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for 39 Grover Street. Motion made by Richard Stankus, seconded by Paul McDonald. Motion carried.

126 South Street- Mr. and Mrs. Krystofik: Application proposes to repair in-kind the existing front porch pillars, concrete support bases, ceiling and roof as needed.

Christina Selvek: This application is returning to the Board after receiving initial approval 5-7 years ago for front porch restoration work. Their permit has expired and they are now required to come back in front of us for re-approval.

Chair invites applicant to present the project.

Mr. Krystofik: The project has taken us longer than anticipated. The initial project was thought to be small scale but once work started it was found to be much larger. Carpenter ants were found under the bases and all of the supports so everything needed to be repaired. This project turned into a complete rebuild. Refers to pictures.

We dug up all of the footings, saved all of the stone, poured new cement, made it structurally sound and then put back the stone work. There is concrete supporting the main supports plus the stairs. I saved and reused as much material as I could. I replanned the porch floor. For the support flooring we used pressure treated wood and reinforced the underneath supports. The Historical bases are the same the historical bases that the columns sit on are the same. I milled the tops and bottoms since that was where a lot of the rot was. Composite beams were used all the way across the porch to make it structurally sound. The top porch is level. The main header support across the front of the porch is two times the size it should be for support. We have maintained the historical colors of the house; we actually had that researched and will stay with the yellow gold and white trim colors.

Richard Stankus: Concerned with the timing of the project, and refers to the September 30, 2014 deadline outlined in a letter that was written to Mrs. Selvek by the applicant. The project has been in progress for the past 5 plus years. I am not familiar with the City's Home Repair Assistance Program that you refer to in the letter but is that program going to be able to complete the project by September 30th and is it going to be able to finance the entire project?

Mr. Krystofik: Initially we thought this project was going to be a small fix but it has turned into a large project. We have already put \$20,000 into it and we have limited resources and funds. The City's Home Repair Assistance Program is a low interest loan program over a 15 year period. We have a meeting with Mr. Greer tomorrow at 2pm to discuss the scope of the project. I have the materials stored in my garage. I have the knotty pine, bases, trim and spindles for the railings. Our intent is to one day move back into the house.

Chair asks for a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for 126 South Street. Motion made by Paul McDonald, seconded by Ed Onori. Motion carried.

Chair requests that pictures be taken during and after the construction for the HRRB file of 126 South Street.

Other Matters:

Christina Selvek: Announces an article on the Preservation Award Ceremony that was in *The Citizen* newspaper on June 20, 2014.

A. Board Vacancy

Christina Selvek: We have received an additional application by Linda Frank from the County Historian's office and hope that everyone has had the chance to review it. Would Board members like to have a discussion or provide input on the position to the Mayor?

Richard Stankus: Questions if the Board has a responsibility on making a recommendation to the Mayor. In the past, the board has not been faced with the choice of two well qualified candidates. How important is the Board's input to the Mayor?

Christina Selvek: The Board is not required to make a recommendation but the Mayor likes to hear from Board members. The Mayor makes the recommendation to City Council and Council votes to appoint the new member.

Jim Hutchinson: I think the Board should make a recommendation to the Mayor that both of the candidates are qualified.

Board consensus is that there are two candidates that are qualified for the Historic Resources Review Board position and it is to the discretion of the Mayor as to who he appoints.

Christina Selvek: Asks Board members if they have questions or further discussion regarding the 84 South Street application

Richard Stankus: This application is similar to the 108 South Street application where this Board is advisory to the ZBA. So my concern is should we be reviewing the application first and then make a recommendation to the Zoning Board?

Christina Selvek: 108 South Street was a use variance application so they were not proposing any exterior changes that would trigger this Board's review. 84 South Street is an area variance application with a preexisting nonconformity in the District and the size of the addition that is being proposed triggers Zoning Board approval. 84 South Street will make a ZBA application and then be back before this Board for review and a recommendation to the ZBA and then finally it will go back in front of ZBA for approval.

Michael Deming: Asks if there was an application to Zoning Board last time it was proposed.

Christina Selvek: He went to them for a sign and proposed changes to the front porch. In 2003 there was an application but there is not a record of an HRRB application.

Jim Hutchinson: Requests that the Board make a formal request for a public meeting on the road reconstruction project that will be taking place on South Street.

Chair asks for a motion to make a formal request to Mayor and Council to hold a pre-construction public informational meeting regarding the South Street construction project. Motion made by Jim Hutchinson seconded by Richard Stankus.

Paul McDonald: Questions last meetings discussion regarding the Bouck sign on South Street.

Christina Selvek: The sign is within the sign requirements but the Board can send a letter saying that the sign is detracting from the aesthetics of the Historical District and request removing the sign.

All Board members agree that a letter regarding the large Bouck sign on South Street would be appropriate.

Next meeting scheduled for **Tuesday, August 12, 2014** at 7:00 pm at Memorial City Hall- Council Chambers.

Motion to adjourn by Richard Stankus, seconded by Paul McDonald. Meeting adjourned.

Recorded by Renee Jensen