

**MINUTES
CITY OF ST. CHARLES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2019
COMMITTEE ROOM**

Members Present: Malay, Smunt, Norris, Kessler, Pretz, Krahenbuhl

Members Absent: Mann

Also Present: Russell Colby, Community Development Division Manager
Rachel Hitzemann, Planner

1. Call to order

Chairman Norris called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll call

Ms. Hitzemann called roll with six members present. There was a quorum.

3. Approval of Agenda

The following item was added:

10b. 630 N. 3rd Ave.

4. Presentation of minutes of the July 17th, 2019 meeting

A motion was made by Ms. Malay and seconded by Dr. Smunt with a unanimous voice vote to approve the minutes of the July 17th, 2019 meeting.

5. Preliminary Reviews – Open forum for questions or presentation of preliminary concepts to the Commission for feedback

None.

6. Landmark Applications

None.

7. Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) applications

a. 111-113 W. Main St.

The proposal is for the replacement of two front signs and two rear awnings. The front signs will be made out of an aluminum base frame and will include illuminated channel lettering set on a raceway that will sit approximately 1 foot off of the façade. The existing rear awning frames will remain and will be recovered with Sunbrella material.

Dr. Smunt expressed concerns over losing the current gooseneck lighting that exists on the building. He stated the proposed channel lettering conflicts with the entire façade. The applicant said the plan may be to keep the gooseneck light but not utilize it because the client has a consistent design that they use on most of their stores. Dr. Smunt felt they were introducing a more modern element that is incompatible with what was originally designed when the building was redone. He said it would change a unique historical feature that was approved by the Commission at that time. The other Commissioners preferred keeping the gooseneck lighting in place, but not necessarily requiring it be lit.

A motion was made by Ms. Malay and seconded by Mr. Krahenbuhl with a 3-2 voice vote to approve the COA with the condition that the gooseneck lighting remains intact.

b. 16 N. Riverside Ave.

The proposal is for the replacement of existing awning covers with Sunbrella material and the re-installation of awning structures that were previously removed due to deterioration. One new awning will be added.

A motion was made by Ms. Malay and seconded by Mr. Kessler with a unanimous voice vote to approve the COA as presented.

8. Grant Applications

None.

9. Other Commission Business

a. Pottawattamie Survey Update

Staff has begun looking into potential architects to conduct the survey. This includes a list provided by the State of Illinois of architects, that if used, would qualify for grant funding. The cost estimate given by the State is \$60 per building for an intensive survey and \$20 for a lesser survey. Staff felt the difference in the costs may be related to the level of historical research that needs to be done on the building. There are approximately 83 sites to be surveyed. Staff noted if the overall survey costs are low it might cost more to comply with the requirements of the grant.

Suggestions were made to include Mike Dickson, Dan Marshall and John Hrivnak as potential architects.

10. Additional Business and Observations from Commissioners or Staff

a. Camp Kane Historical Marker

Ms. Malay presented documents showing the design of the marker. The Commission has been asked for approval on the design, wording and location of the marker. Mr. Pretz would prefer approval on the wording be made by someone who can verify the historical accuracy of the information. The Commission felt they did not have the expertise to approve the wording. Ms. Malay said the State does verify the information presented.

Two other existing signs will be removed when the marker is put in place. A suggestion was made to specify which signs will definitely be removed.

A motion was made by Mr. Krahenbuhl and seconded by Dr. Smunt with a 4-1 voice vote to approve the design and location of the marker subject upon the review by the State for the historical wording and the removal of the small existing Camp Kane sign.

b. 630 N. 3rd Ave.

Mr. Pretz said the homeowners are interested in pursuing landmark status. He presented some brief historical information on the home. The Commission was in favor of pursuing this.

11. Meeting Announcements: Historic Preservation Commission meeting Wednesday, August 21, 2019 at 7:00 P.M. in the Committee Room.

12. Public Comment

Dr. Smunt asked about the status of the plaques for recently landmarked sites. Mr. Colby advised there are 6 on backlog. The City budgets for 2 per year. Dr. Smunt recommended awarding a certificate to each owner while they wait for their plaque.

13. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.