

LANCASTER, NEW YORK HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
Minutes of the September 18th, 2002 meeting

Attendance:

James Keysa
Ronald Batt
Jean Brunea
Joseph Giallanza
William Harnack (excused)
Michael Meyer
Jan Pecquer

Jeff Stribing
Art Herdzik
Sandy Larkin

Hearings:

1. M & T Bank – 5400 Broadway - Bob Bender – Requesting approval to install exterior lighting for signs located on the front and rear of the main building. The light fixture would be model RTT200. metal Halite lamp fixtures, (as pictured in brochure provided), in white, tilt shade, spaced 5 ft. apart on center (approximately four fixtures per sign, front and back, evenly spaced, to provide external lighting to the sign) .
Motion made for approval.
Moved - Joe Giallanza
Second – Jan Pecquer
Approved – notification will be sent

2. Robert Faulhaber – 5542 Broadway, Lancaster, NY
Also present at this meeting were Ken O'Brien and Greg Young.

Mr. Faulhaber, at the May 8, 2002 meeting, presented a petition to install a new chain-link fence along the west line of his property from the sidewalk to his home and then easterly to the southeast corner of his house. There is no fence in this location at the present time. At that time, the commission adopted the position that this would not be in keeping with what is appropriate in the Historic District. The position of the board is that we have been following the comprehensive master plan which was adopted in 1999 and the guidelines set by the Secretary of the Interior for the historic district which calls for no new chain link fences. Mr. Faulhaber has indicated they have been around for sometime. The guidelines, however, call for no chain link fences since they are not evocative of earlier periods of time we are trying to maintain. Mike Meyers has provided to us information indicating that they are not acceptable in most historic districts. Mr. Faulhaber is challenging that decision by the Commission and once again petitioning to install the fence described above. Mr. Faulhaber wanted to know why it was not voted on at the previous meeting, and was informed that it was voted on in the June Meeting. He also asked why he was not notified regarding the board's decision, and the board indicated that he had been notified (notice was left in his side door). It was decided that another vote would be taken – the board has tried to work with Mr. Faulhaber regarding three types of fences which would be acceptable and fit within the guidelines set by the Secretary of the Interior and the guidelines of the master plan, however, these options were not acceptable. Jim Keysa indicated that another vote should be taken to , and he would not participate in another vote on this issue, but invited the board to vote again in Mr. Faulhaber's presence, which they did.

Motion for revote made by to bring up again the issue for reconsideration of the chain link for Mr. Faulhaber.

Motion - Ron Batt
Seconded - Joe Giallanza
Approved

Motion to take a roll-call vote on the issue of Mr. Faulhaber's application for the chain link fence.

Motion – Joe Giallanza
Seconded – Mike Meyer
Vote was taken – the request was Disapproved.

3. Accent Photography – 57 Central Avenue - Santora Signs

We have a proposal from John Santora from Santora Signs - 46 Central Avenue for attaching a sign to the front of the structure. The sign is to be 10' long by approximately 4' in height. The part that says photography is approximately 8' long and 10" high. It was a sign box which was removed from a former location, and would be centered on the building above the door – there are lighting fixtures on the sign box, but it was indicated that the sign box should be modified to remove any lighting fixtures to avoid any chance of it being lighted in the future, and it should be flush. Also, the beveled glass on the building is a very important aspect of that building and this sign doesn't seem to fit the area available. The decorative windows should not be obscured, so it was suggested that the sign could possibly be placed side by side on the brick area, and it was agreed that the sign could be modified to do as the board has suggested. The background box would be eliminated from the word "Photography"; the letters in "Accent" are individual letters and would be mounted as such. For any lighting of the sign, a separate petition would have to be made. Any lighting of the sign would have to be external.

Motion was made to vote to modify the existing sign as to have the individual letters spelling out "Accent" installed in the brick area above fancy glass windows of the façade and the section that displays the word "Photography" would have the box removed and placed flush against building in the brick area; colors are to be lavender color on the word Accent; purple on the word Photography; the sign would not be back lit.

Motion - Joe Giallanza.

Second - Ron Batt.

Approved.

4. New York Store - Petition by Alan Kurtzman. To pull off stone facade and repair brick underneath – to be done only on south wall of the building facing the parking lot, to repair the brick – probably repointing, however, until the work is started we are not exactly sure what we will be dealing with. Some brick may be chipped and will have to be replaced. As far as the windows are concerned, they will be repaired or replaced in like materials as close as possible to what was there. Mike Meyers will get the name of a restoration company who could possibly be of assistance to Alan. Eventually the other two sides of the building would also be repaired, however this is the weathered side of the building, and the one that is in most need of repair.

Motion - Mike Meyer

Second – Ron Batt

Approved – notification will be sent

Status Reports:

Broadway:

Jean and Jim attended meeting at DOT Offices.

Discussed Lancaster Bridge – steel should be delivered by 10/1/02 – concrete pouring should occur within two weeks – we are still in line for finishing the bridge by end of October. Grand Opening at Depew bridge will take place at the end of September.

Reviewed a design for the Texas Barrier Style design. The bridge looks good. It is poured concrete, not flaired at the bottom. Light standards will be the tall ones. Lighting is currently scheduled from Aurora Street to the Municipal building. It should, however, go to the east village line – a letter must be sent so that this will be changed. The cost of the decorative standards is more than the cost of the cobrahead lights, and an estimated 30-40 light standards are needed to go to the village line at a cost of approximately \$9000 each. We will have to see if we can locate this money. A letter must go to DOT to indicate the conduit should go all the way to Aurora Street / East Village Line. Granite curbing is planned for the entire historic district along Broadway. We also discussed the situation with the trees – ones that have suffered through the summer will need to be replaced. Also all of the big trees in the work area should be fed again come spring – we must write a letter regarding this to Kim Richardson from the Department of Transportation.

Sidewalks will be 5 feet wide and will avoid the trees. We have to talk to the Boys and Girls Club regarding the chestnut tree.

Stamped Concrete will be used in front of the library. We asked that the color be changed so that all stamped concrete will be red brick – not gray as in Depew.

We will have to do a letter requesting all of these items.

Signage should be placed to identify the Lancaster Historic District. The area should start off where light fixtures change (Aurora Street/East Village Line). The space is available, but we would have to come up with a design for approval.

We spoke about the municipal building parking lot but the problem is that the village has not moved ahead with demolition of the garage and nothing can happen until they do. There should be only one entrance for the Moose Club and parking lot. Jeff Stribing added that the garage will not be moved until we decide what we are doing with the police department, which should be some time in early December. If we keep the police we will have to find another location for the garage. If we don't, then this will be torn down and not replaced.

At the northeast corner of the podiatrist's office there is a small space with trees so cars do not come right up to the sidewalk. This was called for in the plans for the parking lot. Also, we have to contact the podiatrist's office. As part of our efforts to save the building they agreed to restore the front of the building, and nothing has yet been done. Mike Meyer agreed to help with this item.

Jeff Stribing reported that M & T Bank is looking at a possible relocation of their bank because their drive thru is currently detached. They would like to stay where they are presently located if at all possible, but cost will be a factor.

Peter Smith has designed an overlook for Plum Bottom Creek. The town is in charge of maintenance. The infrastructure of the sidewalk is timber. The Bridge possibly dates to 1850 and has a fieldstone arch that can only be viewed from the east side of the bridge. Jeff Stribing will meet with the town next week. He estimates the bridge work could be an investment of around \$150,000.

LETTERS TO PROPERTY OWNERS – Bill Harnack who is doing work on this item was not present at this meeting. The item had to be tabled until the next meeting.

PROPERTY FORMS: Jean Brunea has indicated that she will get together with Jim Keysa, Ron Batt, and Joe Giallanza to get background information back to Mike. It does not have to be extensive. A date will be scheduled.

Discussed the plan for the street and sidewalks in front of opera house. The plans do away with idea of a medallion in center due to odd street configuration. Plans indicate that busses will be able to drop off and pick up patrons in this area. This is still to be negotiated with the town.

Future Meetings

The Commission has tentatively arranged to meet as follows:

October 16, 2002

November 13, 2002

December :

A Christmas party has been scheduled for Wednesday, December 4, 2002 at Salvatore's Italian Gardens.

A meeting has been scheduled for December 11th, 2002