

**LANCASTER, NEW YORK
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
Minutes of Wednesday April 9, 2003**

Attendance:

James Keysa
Ronald Batt
Joe Giallanza
William Harnack
Michael Meyer

Excused:

Jean Brunea
Jan Pecqueur

Hearings:

The presentation by Daniel Sundell from the Peter J. Smith Company for the Village sign at the Northwest corner of Broadway & Central Avenue was postponed until May 14th. Village Trustee, Jeffrey Stribing said that the submission was not ready. He expected that in the near future we would also hear from Picasso's Pizzeria and the Lancaster Opera House about signs.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The minutes from March 12, 2003 were distributed and read. Motion to approve by Michael Meyer, seconded by William Harnack. Approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report:

No activity until bills are paid. The 2003-04 budget request was submitted to the Village.

STATUS REPORTS:

Broadway:

There has been a great deal of construction work going on along Broadway. The traffic signal at the east end of the Municipal Building is now gone (as are the Village Police who have now merged with the Town). Work has been progressing by Verizon who has been moving their underground cables and installing new bunkers such as at Park Blvd. Congestion at this intersection sparked a conversation about the need for a second entrance/exit for the approximately 88 families on this street. A possible solution would be at the end of Park Blvd. so that it could connect with the westerly extension of Franklin Street. Joe Giallanza stated that the Historic District would be the most difficult area of the project due to the narrower nature of the street. Once the telephone cables are done, they will be re-doing the storm sewers on the south side of Broadway.

James Keysa reported that the owner of the house (former Seeger Funeral Home) next to the showroom now owned by Walter Przybl (former Brost Motors) has removed the second large silver maple. There are no longer any trees along Broadway from School Street east to the Brost Building. The committee unanimously expressed the desire to pursue implementing a tree ordinance. The tree that was removed was in perfect shape. The Committee believes that the tree ordinance is vital to the appearance of the community and it must be re-submitted to the Village Board.

Mr. Keysa reported that he had spoken with the DOT Project Manager, David Carr regarding several issues:

- a. The chestnut tree by the driveway entrance to the Boys' & Girls' Club will be moved somewhere within the project.
- b. There will be no crosswalk at Park Blvd.
- c. There will be a small green space on the East Side of the podiatrist's office at 5429 Broadway.
- d. There will be only one entrance to the parking lot to be used by the Moose/Municipal Building from Broadway.

E.B. Green's Plans

Jeff Stribing reported that the DOT is still negotiating with the Donlon family for the purchase of their two-family dwelling at the southwest corner of Broadway & Legion Parkway. The Donlons want \$300,000 for this house that was built on the old tannery. The committee expects that the DOT will take the property by eminent domain if they cannot come to an agreement. The entrance to Legion Parkway & Broadway will be located where the house now stands.

Walt
80,000 -
100,000

Central Avenue:

Jeff Stribing reported that the contract had been awarded to Destro Brothers. He stated that CATCO had not bid on the job, as apparently it was too small. Work will begin within six weeks and must be completed within 90 days. There were 5 bids ranging from \$1.4 - \$1.8 Million. Destro previously worked on other jobs with budgets of \$5-\$6 Million so it is felt that they are experienced.

A discussion about "bump-outs" ensued. Dr. Batt was adamantly opposed to them as he feels they make it difficult to park and they tend to collect snow piles in the winter. Others felt that they had a calming effect on the traffic and made it easier to cross a wide street.

Notice to Property Owners:

The letter prepared by Bill Harnack is ready to be printed. The only change will be to write out DOT and SBL numbers as people may not know what these numbers mean. There is the need to obtain new stationery. Sandy Larkin had made arrangements through Delft printers. James Keysa wants a phone number on the letterhead but Tammy Derkovitz does not want the Village Clerk/Treasurer's office number utilized. It was recommended that the phone number for the Building Inspector be used. The address could be c/o the Building Inspector.

Property Forms:

The committee who has been working on background information for the buildings from the Municipal Building to the west, along Aurora, Pleasant Ave. West & Central will submit their information to Michael Meyer so that it can be used in the property forms being prepared by Flynn-Battaglia.

Review of Prior Hearings:

Sav-A-Lot Supermarket: Due to the fact that we were unable to vote on the matter at our last meeting, the petition was reviewed and approved. Motion by Joe Giallanza. Second by Michael Meyer. The signage and gooseneck lighting are to be centered over the entrance area. We strongly urged that a historic style awning without any writing on it be used over the entrance similar to the ones on The New York Store or the Cigar Store at School & Broadway. Work on the project has halted due to a lawsuit by the Martial Arts group. Our approval is for only two years.

New Business:

1. Friends of Broadway budget; Duane Redlinski wrote to James Keysa suggesting that the budget be gifted to the Boys' & Girls' Club. The committee unanimously rejected this idea. The money was collected for Broadway and should be used for a purpose to benefit Broadway. Mr. Keysa had previously raised this issue at one of our meetings. Jeff Stribing said the DOT is planning a sign near the east village line, but there are plenty of other uses that the committee felt were more appropriate than the Boys' & Girls' Club, even though this is a worthy charity. Another sign might be useful at Aurora Street indicating one is entering the historic district.

2. Historic Preservation Conference: Michael Meyer reported on the conference that he and Jean Brunea attended in Albion, NY on April 5, 2003. Jean and Mike attended historic board training. Mr. Meyer presented handouts to the committee. He indicated that procedurally, the commission is doing things correctly. We could do more in the area of public interaction. Our letter to property owners will assist in this regard. Tanya Wierzbicki of the Preservation League may be available to speak in Lancaster. It was suggested that next May we could possibly open up the buildings on the National Register. James Keysa suggested an "old Homeweek" type celebration to highlight the work done on Broadway & Central Avenue.
3. Pediatrician's Office (Alma McNutt's Store- Dalton's): Craig Lindauer, the purchaser, wants to meet with the committee regarding ideas for his building. He is particularly concerned about the façade.
4. Dr. Robert Rudewicz – 5429 Broadway: James Keysa will arrange to have Joe Giallanza, Jeff Stribing and Michael Meyer meet with Dr. Rudewicz to discuss possible ideas for his building. Friday May 9th was chosen for a lunch meeting at Eddie Ryan's Restaurant.
5. Picasso's Pizzeria: Jeff Stribing stated that Mark DiGiore, owner of Picasso's will need to meet with the committee regarding a new sign. Jeff said that the sign ought to be related to the Village sign and the Town Hall sign.
6. Light Poles: Jeff Stribing stated that the antique style light poles will only go as far east as the Municipal Building. In order to go to the east village line, 20 poles would be needed at a cost of \$12,000/pole for a total cost of \$240,000. If they cannot go all the way to the village line, they are hoping to have them extend to at least Lake Ave.
7. Meeting Minutes: Mr. Keysa provided minutes of Historic Commission meetings as required by a subpoena from the law firm of Vinal & Vinal. They represent the Oriole's Club in a suit against Rite Aid/Carl Paladino. They were looking for anything related to discussions concerning the former Oriole's building that is now Eddie Ryan's Restaurant.

Correspondence/Articles:

Mr. Keysa presented an article By Donn Esmonde of the Buffalo News concerning Carl Paladino knocking down the Harbor Inn in Buffalo over a weekend. This was one of the last vestiges of Erie Canal/Lake travel history in the city.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by James S. Keysa.