

MEETING MINUTES

September 9, 2009

I. Attendance / Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by Chairman Meyer.

Brunea, J.	<u> x </u>	Alternates:	
Harnack, W., V. Chair	<u> </u>	1. Kwiatek, R.	<u> </u>
Meyer, M., Chair	<u> x </u>	2. Hassett, J.	<u> ex. </u>
Pecqueur, J., Acting V. Chair	<u> x </u>		
Preston, T.	<u> </u>	Simme, J.	<u> ex. </u> (Bldg. Dept.)
Miller, G., Secretary	<u> x </u>	Stribing, J.	<u>(8:00)</u> (Village Bd. Liaison)

Roll call indicated that a quorum of four (4) existed.

II. Public Hearings:

A.) Informal Discussion: 10 Aurora St / Mr. Matt Murphy / Signage

Mr. Matt Murphy attended the meeting to introduce himself and to express his regret over the misunderstanding with the building department that resulted in an unauthorized permit for his backlit sign. His apprentice, Matt Jaskin, a senior at Lancaster High School, attended as well. Mr. Murphy may attend the next meeting with alternative illumination plans for the sign, which will not be turned on.

III. Approval of meeting minutes: August 12, 2009

Tabled.

IV. Administrative Matters

A.) Procedural: The expiration date will be specified on all Certificates of Appropriateness and accompanying notification letters.

B.) Communications/Reports:

1. Treasurer's Report: Miller: An end-of-the-fiscal-year report will be available next month.

C.) Public Comment on Matters of Interest

1. Threatened Properties to Watch: Simme sent an email updating the status of various properties of concern.

2. 71 Central Ave: Condemned but demolition is still pending due to the possibility of a buyer who can restore the property once the legalities are resolved.

3. New York Store: Stribing: Shine-a-light contest online presents an opportunity for

Lancaster, New York

New York Store to win \$100,000.

IV. Old Business

- A.) Façade Program Update: Stribing:** Several properties have documents out for bids. Some interest but no new buy-in from remaining properties.
- B.) Temporary Signage:** Miller: Proposed code edits will be considered at next Planning Board meeting. No new changes were offered by the board.
- C.) National Register nomination (Opera House):** Miller sent a letter to the Town Board clarifying the benefits and obligations for National Register property owners, but still no response has been received.
- D.) Lancaster Library Historic Preservation Resource Reference Section:** Miller: After meeting with Mr. James Stelzle, Director the Lancaster Public Library, Miller prepared a proposal for a display and collection resources of materials and resources relating to historic preservation, and historic homeownership and repair. The proposal was presented to the board for approval. Amendments were suggested and will be incorporated into a new draft to be submitted for Village Board approval at the October meeting. Following Village Board approval, the proposal will be presented to the Library Board of Trustees at their October meeting.

MOTION: Pecqueur: To approve proposal as amended. Seconded by Brunea.

MOTION APPROVED: In a vote of four (4) to zero (0). Carried

V. New Business

- A.) Property Maintenance code:** Simme absent.
- B.) NYS Rehabilitation Tax Credit for Homeowners and Commercial Properties:** Miller will attend both workshops (homeowner and commercial) on September 30th at the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society and is willing to provide a ride to anyone else interested in attending.
- C.) Tax Assessment Abatement for historic district residents:** The board should consider presenting this proposal to the Village Board again in order to encourage residents to take advantage of the NYS tax credit program to make improvements on their homes and businesses. More detailed planning can take place once the CLG grant-funded historic resources survey update is completed, and once more is known about the NYS program.
- D.) Spring workshops through Community Education:** Miller is in touch with Kim Glauser regarding presenting several free or low-cost 1-night workshops of interest to historic homeowners and businesses in the Historic District as part of the Lancaster

Lancaster, New York

Community Education Spring Program. This utilizes the existing registration process and publicity of the Community Ed program. Presentations in development include: Effective Signage for your business, with a sign maker guest speaker; Effective window displays for your business; Fire Safety in Historic Buildings, based on the National Trust Publication and featuring a speaker from the Lancaster Fire Dept.; Historic Housekeeping and Heirloom repair, with demonstrations based on the National Trust publication; How to List your property on the National Register and become eligible for NYS Historic Rehab tax credits.

E.) Newsletter/pamphlet mailing: Miller: A draft is not yet complete.

F.) Landmark Society of Western NY Preservation Commission Gathering: The focus will be on outreach to the community. Miller will be attending the free gathering on October 5th in Brighton, NY and can provide a ride to anyone else interested in attending.

G.) 2009 Holiday Party: Old Orchard on Tuesday, December 8th, 2009.

VI. Correspondence/Articles:

Letter: Jeff Stribing, Lancaster CDC, Sept. 2, 2009 Re: NY Store Shine-a-light Contest

Pamphlets:

“New York State Rehabilitation Tax Credit for Homeowners.” Division for Historic Preservation, NY State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation: 2009.

“New York State Rehabilitation Tax Credit for Commercial Property.” Division for Historic Preservation, NY State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation: 2009.

VII. Next Meetings:

October 14, 2009

November 11, 2009

December 9, 2009

VIII. Adjourn:

MOTION: Brunea: To adjourn. Seconded by Meyer.

MOTION APPROVED: In a vote of four (4) to zero (0). Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Grace M. Miller, Secretary and Board Member