



**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, April 26, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Darrel Eisenhardt at 6:30 p.m. Aldermanic Representative Susan Kott; Commissioner Frank Capra; Commissioner Steve Wagner; Commissioner Kevin O'Brien; and Daniel Colwell were present. Commissioner Maria Veronico was excused.

Student Representative Tyler Van Patten arrived at 6:31 pm.

Commissioner Eisenhardt welcomed the new commissioners and had everyone introduce themselves.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Tom Stelling stated that everything was good, but just wanted to take a break from being chairman on the historic meetings. Mr. Stelling offered his assistance for any future meetings since he had so much history with the historic district. Mr. Stelling further thanked everyone for their friendship, services, and loyalty over the years.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Colwell moved, and Commissioner O'Brien seconded to approve the minutes of February 22, 2018.

VOTE FOR NEW CHAIRMAN

Commissioner Eisenhardt opened the nomination for a new chairman. Aldermanic Representative Kott moved, and Commissioner Colwell seconded to nominate Commissioner Eisenhardt. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Commissioner Eisenhardt asked if there was a second nomination. There were none.

Commissioner O'Brien moved, and Aldermanic Representative Kott seconded to approve Commissioner Eisenhardt as Chairman. All were in favor and the motion carried.

LETTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS

None

OLD BUSINESS

A. 348 N. Pine Street – The Jewelry Center, tabled December 28, 2017

1. Certificate of Appropriateness to install signage

- Chairman Eisenhardt introduced and opened this item for discussion.

- Commissioner Colwell stated at the December 28, 2017 meeting there was a concern whether or not only the letters were counted or the whole signage, towards the percentage of the window. Commissioner Colwell questioned if the ordinance needed to be amended to specify this measurement. Aldermanic Representative Kott stated she was surprised the measurement was based on individual letters.
- Tom Stelling, prior Historic Preservation Chairman, stated the previous plan reviewer, Patrick Meehan, would calculate only the letters because with the transparency area it could be seen through. Mr. Stelling stated you could install the letters individually, but it made it more difficult to apply the signage this way instead of the entire signage with a transparent border.
- Aldermanic Representative Kott stated more people will want to fill their windows with words instead of signs, since “Watch Batteries” on the right side and “Expert Jewelry & Watch Repair” on the left side of the window are advertising signs. Commissioner Colwell replied the vinyl/gilded lettering shall not be counted towards signage according to the ordinance. Commissioner Colwell also stated according to Gregory Guidry, Building Inspector, it covers 30% of the window. Aldermanic Representative Kott stated not many other businesses have this letter size and thought maybe the letters could be reduced.
- Aldermanic Representative Kott commented the two transom window signs should count as two signs, as well as towards the percentage of the façade of the building. Commissioner O’Brien asked Mr. Stelling how long it would take to amend the ordinance. Mr. Stelling answered it would take at least 3-4 months. Commissioner Wagner asked if there was wording from Mr. Meehan to allow the transparency to count as open space or not. Commissioner Capra stated he had no issue with the letters on the window, just the upper transom window signage. Aldermanic Representative Kott commented the two front windows could be approved, but did not think the transom window signage should be approved.
- Commissioner O’Brien asked if the two transom signs could be removed. John Ehrmann, manager, stated they are willing to do what is required, but was confused as to why there is an issue whether or not the two storefront windows are considered signage or letters. Mr. Ehrmann stated he would have to present this to the owner.
- There were no further comments.
- Commissioner Colwell moved, and Aldermanic Representative Kott seconded to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for signage if at least one transom window signage, preferably both, was removed.
- All were in favor and the motion carried.

2. Sign Permit application to install signage

- Chairman Eisenhardt introduced and opened this item for discussion.
- There were no comments.

- Commissioner Colwell moved, and Aldermanic Representative Kott seconded to approve the sign installation if the transom window signage was removed and the storefront signage was allowed to be calculated with just the lettering.
- All were in favor and the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. 489 Milwaukee Avenue – World Finance Corporation

1. Certificate of Appropriateness to install a projecting sign

- Chairman Eisenhardt introduced and opened this item for discussion.
- Commissioner O'Brien stated the signs on the windows have already been installed without asking for approval. Student Representative Tyler Van Patten questioned which signage was correct, one page shows a perpendicular sign and on another page shows it flush to the building. Commissioner Colwell stated the "Loan & Taxes" sign should be of a different font. Aldermanic Representative Kott stated either the "Loan & Taxes" sign must be removed or should have a Serif font. Aldermanic Representative Kott further stated the business name should be on the awning instead of an e-mail address, since there was no such thing in the historic era.
- There were no further comments.
- Aldermanic Representative Kott moved, and Commissioner O'Brien seconded to deny the Certificate of Appropriateness for the sign. The Commissioners agreed to have the applicant resubmit with the corrected changes before approval.
- All were in favor and the motion carried.

2. Sign Permit application to install a projecting sign

- Chairman Eisenhardt introduced and opened this item for discussion.
- There were no comments.
- Commissioner Colwell moved, and Commissioner O'Brien seconded to deny the Sign Permit, until the applicant resubmits the corrected changes that were requested.
- All were in favor and the motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Review of Façade Grant Funding Status.

- Chairman Eisenhardt introduced and opened this item for discussion.
- Commissioner Eisenhardt stated Round 5 has two pending projects, Round 6 has been paid out in full, Round 7 has four pending projects and Round 8 has the remaining balance of \$49,680.96.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Colwell moved, and Aldermanic Representative Kott seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. *All were in favor and the motion carried.*

Recording Secretary,

Kristine Anderson
Administrative Assistant