

HISTORIC VERMILION DESIGN REVIEW BOARD
Meeting Minutes of December 2, 2020 @ 6:00 pm via ZOOM

Roll Call: Robbie Brown, Marilou Suszko, Susan Cairns, Judy Williams. Absent:
Brenda Miklos

Robbie Brown, Chairwoman called the Wednesday, December 2, 2020 meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

S. Cairns MOVED; J. Williams seconded to approve the meeting minutes of November 4, 2020. Vote 4 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

NEW BUSINESS:

(Commercial) Applicant: Dan & Laura Roth, 5693 Liberty Avenue (Utility Building)

Dan Roth explained their intent is to place a 10' x 20' utility building on their property. They are open to ideas, but they explored putting a green metal roof on the building and having a pale-yellow color with white trim. He said the building would have a porch on it and they thought possibly they could sell t-shirts and beach jewelry from it in the summer months to add draw to the area rather than just hotdogs. Also, they need additional storage, especially in the winter months. He said the building is custom built so they can make minor changes. It takes five weeks to build and deliver the building. He said 10' x 10' of the building is actually enclosed. He mentioned that he looked at the requirements of utility buildings and he made sure they kept all the setbacks as required per code.

M. Suszko asked if they would be running this business or will they be leasing it to someone else. D. Roth said it would be theirs. M. Suszko asked if this is a part of a bigger vision, whereby, there would be more structures like this on the property. D. Roth said as of right now, he needs to move the mining to the west, so this building would be placed where the mining is currently, so he doesn't block the neighbors window. He said they had envisioned several small buildings when they put it on paper, but once they put them in, he realizes it gets small real fast. If they ever can do away with the social distancing, they would like to add additional tables, so they need to keep as much open space for this as well.

M. Suszko MOVED, R. Brown seconded to approve the application as submitted. Vote 4 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Residential) Applicant: Virginia & Jay Berk, 5495 South Street (Siding, Gutters)

Ginny Berk of 5495 South Street said their intent is to put up siding on their house which will be glacier white with Laguna blue peaks. M. Suszko offered an advisory

opinion on her color choice as she understands this look is trending in siding. However, on the upper peak where the siding transitions from the glacier white into the Laguna blue – is there an architectural divide feature or is she stopping the white and starting to insert the blue? G. Berk believed the previous siding was painted green. She said the white will be a straight flush board, and the blue portion of the siding will have a scallop to them. M. Suszko said it was great to hear she was mixing textures. She suggested as far as picking colors to try to end up in the same color palette. She said typically you do not go that far off from one color to the next. She thought her color choice was a big contrast, so she suggested to tone it down to possibly the harbor blue which is a little more blue-grey. G. Berk said she would take this under consideration as she thought about the softer look, but she also wanted it to pop! M. Suszko said the harbor blue would still make it pop. R. Brown was glad she was doing the siding on the house. She thought the roofline would be the dictator of where they start and stop the color. M. Suszko asked the color of her roof. G. Berk said it is a green with white fleck, so there is contrast. S. Cairns asked when they planned to reroof the house. G. Berk said in another 10 years or so they will probably put on a roof that is more blue or grey. S. Cairns wondered how the green roof would blend with her current color choice. G. Berk thought it would be okay because the roof is more whitish. M. Suszko suggested that if they are going to tone the siding down to the harbor blue then she would suggest looking at a grey slate roof. M. Suszko advised her to visit the website lpcorp.com where she can download a picture of her house to do digital coloring as it might be helpful to her when deciding on her color. G. Berk understands her color choice is bold but wanted to make sure it was allowed. R. Brown said the board is only an advisory board on residential property, so she can choose what she wants.

S. Cairns MOVED: R. Brown seconded to approve the application as submitted. Vote 4 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Commercial) Applicant: Libby Williams, 736 Main Street (Signage)

Libby Williams provided sketches of a proposed sign they would like to place for the Harbourtown Fine Arts Center in front of the historic building. She said they received advice from both M. Suszko and D. Corogin on the sign choice. They met with three designers and chose this design. R. Brown said she loved the top of the sign and thought it was fitting with the building. She said it was much different than the other sign they dealt with in the past. She noticed there is space on the sign. Jim Chapple thought this would be sufficient in case they needed to change the names if needed. L. Williams said the sign will be long-lasting and they moved the sign so it wouldn't infringe on the façade of the building and block the view.

R. Brown thanked them for everything they are doing with the building as it is a great asset to the community.

J. Williams MOVED: S. Cairns seconded to approve the application as submitted. Vote 3 YEAS: 1 ABSTENTION (M. Suszko). **MOTION CARRIED.**

Miscellaneous:

M. Suszko said she would like the board to review signage and lighting in the historic area, especially signs that are backlit that are not keeping with the historic downtown look. She thought backlit signs and plastic signs usually do not fit in with a historic downtown district. She said other Main Streets have helped cities move forward with ordinances that apply only to signage in the downtown, which would avoid having plastic or backlit signs, and only allow for signs that are downlit, up lit, or spot lit. She said she was part of a webinar that talked about signage in historic downtowns. It is about creative signage, and it might be helpful if the board would like to look at it, so she would share the link. She thought they might want to educate themselves more on signage and lighting.

ADJOURNMENT:

R. Brown adjourned the meeting upon no further discussion.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, January 6, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Transcribed by Gwen Fisher, Certified Municipal Clerk