

HISTORIC VERMILION DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

Meeting Minutes of April 29, 2020 @ 6:00 pm ~ Zoom Video Meeting

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

Attending: Emily Skahen, Council Representative

Guests: Mayor Forthofer

Robbie Brown, Chairperson called the Wednesday, April 29, 2020 meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

M. Suszko MOVED; S. Cairns seconded to approve the meeting minutes of March 4, 2020. Vote 5 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

NEW BUSINESS:

(Commercial) 5541 Liberty Avenue – Robert Geib/Susan Sees (Siding, Gutters, Doors)

Robert Geib conveyed the siding will be typical to the siding on Jon Clark's rear office, but the color will be different. It was suggested that it might be an off color, but the color will be an exact color that's on the street front of 5541 Liberty and the doors will also be the same color as the street front. J. Williams said the front of the building is quite attractive.

J. Williams MOVED; B. Miklos seconded to approve the project as presented. Roll Call Vote 4 YEAS; 1 ABSTENTION (Suszko). **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Residential) 590 Main Street – Josh Dewey (Driveway)

R. Brown noted that he would be responsible for the cost of moving the lamp post and fixing the curb. Josh Dewey of 590 Main Street explained he is responsible for paying to move the light pole and then cutting the curb in for the driveway. R. Brown asked if he was going for a variance. J. Dewey said the variance was approved on April 28 by BZA.

M. Suszko asked if the car is going into the garage or would he be putting up a structure for a garage. Also, is there a turnaround, or will he back in or face in. J. Dewey said it's a traditional driveway, so he will either back in or face in. No structure will be erected. M. Suszko asked how much room there is between the properties; how wide is the driveway? J. Dewey said it starts off at 10' and tapers out to 9' and therefore he had to go for the variance. M. Suszko asked how much room it leaves between the driveway and the structures on both sides. J. Dewey said the driveway will abut up to his house and it will leave 2.5 feet from the south property line. R. Brown said it's a driveway just like the other two to the south of him. M. Suszko said she will vote no on this because she feels it disrupts the integrity of the

historic downtown look on Main Street by adding a curb cut. She asked if he was taking a tree out as well. J. Dewey said the tree will not be affected. M. Suszko said in her view it seems like they're hammering something into a small space that doesn't belong. R. Brown said it's so much like the other two houses and therefore she doesn't have a problem with it. J. Williams said she had a concern but if the BZA approved the variance, then she feels they are ok. Mayor Forthofer said a lot of the issues pertaining to clearance on either side were addressed by BZA. He said without a driveway Mr. Dewey has no place to park. M. Suszko said there was no access to parking in the back when they built the house.

S. Cairns MOVED; B. Miklos seconded to approve the application as submitted. Roll Call Vote 4 YEAS; 1 NAY (Suszko). **MOTION CARRIED**.

(Commercial) 5289-5296 Liberty Avenue – Liberty Avenue Properties, #1, LLC (Siding, Gutters, Landscaping)

Jim Creech and Mike Cachat, Co-Owners of this property were present to discuss their intentions. Jim Creech said they purchased the building 18 months ago and they want to bring in another small grocery store and the reason they're looking for a color change on the outside is for the citizens and tourists. They're spending about \$50,000 in rehabbing the building, which includes redoing the parking lot and all the exterior. Even though the colors and paint are perfectly fine as is, they want to turn the page to help the citizens move past it, so where the awnings are it will be black (Sherwin Williams Tri-Corn Black) and they will make the rest of the building white as they feel it's clean, modern, and a historic look, and they're trying to tie in the color schemes of the Lagoons and Linwood, and other buildings in the area.

M. Suszko understands what they're trying to do, and she feels like they're trying to tie in the building to the historic look of the Lagoons and Linwood, but they're really located on the edge of Harbourtown, which is not the Lagoons or Linwood. The reason the black/white scheme works in the Lagoons and Linwood is that the houses are maintained at the same look. She would like them to reconsider the color scheme because in the Harbourtown area they have never established a color palette in the historic area. They don't quite know what the color palette is, so the businesses have relied on splashes of color. She suggested reconsideration and for them to review a color palette from Sherwin Williams called Northern Seas and Seaports. It reflects a lot of colors they see in the Harbourtown area, and their business is really the start of the Harbourtown area and not an extension of the Lagoons. R. Brown said there is also a Benjamin Moore color palette they can look at. She agreed with Marilou and was disappointed with the white color on that corner. M. Suszko said she loves they are taking a building on the fringe of their Harbourtown to put a vibrant business there, but she is just asking them to look at the paint color again. She is aware they are putting in other improvements including the fence and landscaping, and all of this is important.

Mayor Forthofer said he defers to the board on the esthetics but knows these gentlemen would probably not want to wait another 30 days to paint the building and asked if there was a device by which the board could confer with them to give them approval. G. Fisher said the board can make a motion contingent upon review with only two of the board members to offer color suggestions, and then final approval can be made at the next meeting. P. Creech asked what the contingency

would look like; would they have to pick a color off a specific palette. R. Brown said they gave them two options of historic colors and she and Marilou could help them with this color palette when deciding. S. Cairns agrees the suggestion of the color choices and asked the property owners to look at their neighbors nearby as they could possibly play off their colors.

J. Williams MOVED; B. Miklos seconded to approve the colors of the building contingent upon meeting with two boards members in helping with the selection of colors to meet the historic district colors, and to make a final approval at the next meeting. Vote 5 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Commercial) 5511 Liberty Avenue – City of Vermilion (Gazebo/Victory Park – Roofing, Exterior Painting)

R. Brown said the presentation provided to the board from Marc Weisenberger, Parks Supervisor on the plans for the gazebo roof were great and she had no further comments.

J. Williams MOVED; M. Suszko seconded to approve the application as submitted. Roll Call Vote 5 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Commercial) 681 Main Street – Property Owner: Nicholas & Marcela Polito (Windows, Trim)

Nick Polito of Swan Creek conveyed that he is continuing his window project as they had already done 16 windows on the second floor and they have four windows left.

S. Cairns MOVED; J. Williams seconded to approve the application as submitted. Roll Call Vote 4 YEAS; 1 ABSTENTION (Suszko). **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Commercial) 5693 Liberty Avenue – Property Owner: Dan Roth (Handicap Ramp for Bathroom)

M. Suszko explained the handicap ramp is needed for the bathroom and it meets all required specifications per code. It's a wood handicap ramp with lattice sides, and the railings are made from coated galvanized pipe. G. Fisher noted that D. Roth didn't have the capability to get on zoom.

J. Williams MOVED; S. Cairns seconded to approve the application as submitted. Roll Call Vote 4 YEAS; 1 ABSTENTION (Suszko). **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Residential) 5832 South Street – Property Owner: Rachael & Jacob Guerrieri (Windows, Doors, Fencing, Paint, Siding)

Jacob Guerrieri explained they want to paint the house a blue color in the spring, but at this time they want to replace all the windows with white trim, front and back doors, and the garage door. They also want to put up a white picket privacy fence. They've already replaced the gutters on the house. The front door will not have a screen/storm door, but the back door will have one. They want to paint both doors a yellow color. The garage door will be a wood like gray. R. Brown suggested him going to the Main Street office to look at the historic color palettes.

J. Williams MOVED; M. Suszko seconded to approve the exterior painting contingent upon the advice of the board. Additionally, approval was given for the windows/trims, fence, front/back doors and garage door. Roll Call Vote 5 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Commercial) 665 Main Street – Property Owner: Alex Koteles (Exterior Painting)

Robbie Brown conveyed this is Woodstock and he's continuing the color he has on the side to clean it up. Alex Koteles said the color on the top will remain the same and the bottom will be a light grey, and he provided the color swatches from the Benjamin Moore historic color palette to the board members for review. The trim will be white, except for the door trim which will be grey to match the lower building, and the door will be black. He also provided paperwork for the fence to M. Suszko. M. Suszko said he would need to pass those plans to the building department. A. Koteles said the fence will go between Swan Creek and Woodstock and the old fence will be removed. He will put up a galvanized fence with cedar pickets in a teak color; hardware will be black. He will do an arch to give it character. He showed on zoom the picture of the fence to the board members.

R. Brown MOVED; S. Cairns seconded to approve the application to include the exterior painting, trim, and fence. Roll Call Vote 4 YEAS; 1 ABSTENTION (Suszko). **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Commercial) 5561 Liberty Avenue – Route 6 Pub (Exterior Painting)

Route 6 owners said they're requesting reapproval of their paint colors that were approved back in 2017, as they attempted to get a different grant, and now they're attempting to get a grant from Heritage Ohio. Therefore, they're just asking for approval of the same colors the board approved in 2017. The colors are Benjamin Moore and Sherwin Williams in the historic colors that were suggested by the board.

S. Cairns MOVED; B. Miklos seconded to approve the application as submitted. Roll Call Vote 4 YEAS; 1 ABSTENTION (Suszko). **MOTION CARRIED.**

ADJOURNMENT:

R. Brown adjourned the meeting upon no further action.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, June 3, 2020 @ a time/location to be determined

Transcribed by: Gwen Fisher, Certified Municipal Clerk