

HISTORIC VERMILION DESIGN REVIEW BOARD
Meeting Minutes of September 1, 2021 @ 6:00 pm

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

Robbie Brown, Chairwoman called the Wednesday, September 1, 2021 meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

M. Suszko MOVED, R. Brown seconded to approve the meeting minutes of August 4, 2021. Roll Call Vote 3 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

NEW BUSINESS:

(Residential) Applicant: Tim Schooley – 601 Perry Street (Blacktop Driveway)

Tim Schooley explained he is replacing his existing limestone driveway with an asphalt driveway. He said he would also like to have the front match his neighbors and do a patch of gravel as well. This cannot be done until Spring because of labor shortages. J. Williams said it will look very nice and much improved.

M. Suszko MOVED, J. Williams seconded to approve the asphalt driveway and front patch as noted. Vote 3 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

(Residential) Applicant: Anne Graham – 5830 Ohio Street (Windows)

This application was tabled to the October meeting due to no representation.

(Residential) Applicant: R.J. Hickey – 585 Main (Garage Man Door)

R. Brown explained the doors have to be the same at Fisherman's Bend, so this was removed from the agenda as they had their own homeowner standards.

(Commercial) Applicant: Lisa Kaplan – 678 Main Street (Fence)

Lisa Kaplan explained her original application was for a privacy fence and landscaping. Upon meeting with Jim Allen from Affordable Renovations they discussed a cement patio, but during excavation they found another foundation from another building, and they had to deal with a drainage issue. They realized that concrete for the patio was not their best option, so they will use shades of gray/tan pavers to match Brummer's blue wall and privacy fence, along with decorative gravel. They will put up a 5'-6' privacy fence (treated wood – tan) along the property line with the south neighbor, along with a cement walkway. She will also replace the old existing arborvitaes with new ones. R. Brown asked if the adjoining business would be removing their fence. L. Kaplan said it will remain and in between will be the arborvitaes.

M. Suszko said she appreciates what she is doing because as the Fulper Lot is being developed there will be a walkway and they talk about creating different small spaces they can identify in Vermilion and this project helps as they move along, so

she really likes and appreciates everything she has done. R. Brown said the windows turned out very nice and agrees with Marilou as this is an asset to the area.

R. Brown MOVED; M. Suszko seconded to approve the project as described above. Roll Call Vote 3 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

(Commercial) Applicant: City of Vermilion – Fulper Lot – (Lighting)

M. Suszko explained there are three lighting fixtures that Vermilion in Bloom, Main Street Vermilion, and the City of Vermilion would like approved so they can order them by the end of the week. The three light poles will not match the historic lighting, but they will compliment it. This is a gooseneck lighting fixture as opposed to the straight black and the finish is a brushed nickel/aluminum. She identified in pictures the brick pathway and the placement of the three light poles. The bases are sunk and wired as to where the poles will be placed. M. Suszko said because of her involvement with the team who picked out the poles she could not vote on this matter.

R. Brown asked why they chose not to go with the black. M. Suszko said they are talking about a different area – the concept for the path going back is to include public art pieces as well as landscaping, which is still to be determined. They are only talking about three lights – brushed nickel blends into the landscape/streetscape without standing out. It is a compliment to what they already see; it's just something a little different but not so dramatically different that they think it will be an issue. R. Brown said when she first looked at it she thought it was way off, but the bottom saved it and she can see it matching with what they already have throughout town. M. Suszko said they need to remember there will be landscaping. R. Brown said she wasn't crazy about this, but with landscaping she understands it will look different. J. Williams asked what the columns/supports were for. M. Suszko said in between those will be fencing and then there will be an entryway into the parking lot. Mayor Forthofer said the vehicle entrance into the parking lot will be on Grand Street. R. Brown said she loved the walkway and is a big fan and is okay with this. J. Williams said it might promote some diversity.

G. Fisher asked for clarity for the record if the three lights will illuminate the walkway or are these the parking lot lights. M. Suszko said there has not been a lighting study done, but the lights will illuminate the pathway, but they will also illuminate the parking lot as well. R. Brown asked if the three lights will take care of the whole parking lot. M. Suszko said they will take care of the walkway and the eastern portion of the parking lot. R. Brown asked what will light the other portion of the parking lot. Mayor Forthofer said the street lighting will help illuminate it. R. Brown said she has no issue with this.

G. Fisher advised the board they need three members to vote on this issue and the motion can be made contingent upon a formal motion at the next meeting. However, the issue of ordering the lights this week would be the Mayor's call. Mayor Forthofer gave his approval to order the lights because they know they need the three lights and the electric service is there specifically for this purpose, but it is really the board's choice as to the style

R. Brown MOVED, J. Williams seconded to approve the lighting project as described contingent upon a final motion by a quorum of the board at the October meeting. Roll Call Vote 2 YEAS.

ADJOURNMENT:

R. Brown adjourned the meeting upon no further discussion.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, October 6, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.
@ Vermilion Municipal Complex, 687 Decatur Street, Vermilion

Transcribed by: Gwen Fisher, Certified Municipal Clerk