

Historic Preservation Advisory Commission Meeting

Regular Meeting of July 20, 2009 7:00 pm

The regular meeting of the Historic Preservation Advisory Commission took place on the above date. Chairwoman LeFrois read the Open Public Meeting Act and requested Board Secretary Mrs. Citterbart called the roll. Board Secretary Citterbart stated there was a quorum.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Kaplan, Mr. Read, Mrs. Schulte, Mr. Wright, Chairwoman LeFrois.

EXCUSED: Mr. Becker, Mr. Storm.

FLAG SALUTE

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

June 15, 2009

Mrs. Schulte made a motion to approve the June 15, 2009 minutes. Mr. Kaplan second the motion.

AYE: Mr. Kaplan, Mr. Read, Mrs. Schulte, Chairwoman LeFrois

ABSTAINED: Mr. Wright

APPLICATIONS

#2009-05-Brad Schneider/Schand'er Boutique

Property Location: 193 Spring Street

Block: 714, Lot: 10.01

Requesting installing a 24" x 48" sign on existing bracket

Chairwoman LeFrois questioned: Mrs. Citterbart is the application found to be in order? Mrs. Citterbart stated: Yes. Chairwoman LeFrois stated: Last month we talked about you filing a formal application and going through the process. The Commissioners have the application and the existing bracket on the building and the color of the sign as proposed. Mr. Schneider could you briefly tell us about the sign? Mr. Schneider stated: The name and the edges are going to be carved in and the rest will be painted. It is cedar. Mr. Read questioned: It will be bolted to the back? Chairwoman LeFrois questioned: What are the dimensions? Mr. Schneider stated: The dimensions are 24" x 48."

Mr. Read made a motion to approve the application. Mrs. Schulte second the motion.

AYE: Mr. Read, Mrs. Schulte, Chairwoman LeFrois

#2009-07-John E. Craddock, III, D.D.S.

Property Location: 92 Main Street

Block: 709 Lot: 2

Requesting removal of existing sign to be replaced with installation of a 2-1/2' x 4' sign.

Chairwoman LeFrois stated: If you could explain what you are proposing to do. Mrs. Craddock stated: I put colors on it because the copies came out pink. We were going for more of a burgundy and dark hunter green. The lettering is going to be carved. The lettering is going to be in the 24karat gold leaf. Chairwoman LeFrois stated: The hunter green is going to be the background. Mrs. Craddock stated: Yes. The burgundy is going to be around the 92, around the border, and the posts will be burgundy. Chairwoman LeFrois questioned: Is this application in order? Mrs. Citterbart stated: Yes. Chairwoman LeFrois questioned: The sign that you have hanging from the bracket now, how big is that? Mr. Craddock stated: It is 12" x 18." Chairwoman LeFrois questioned: So it will be double what you have now? Mrs. Craddock stated: Yes. Mr. Craddock stated: The post is going to be removed. Mrs. Craddock stated: We are going to take that all out and this is going to be a double posted sign. It will be carved on both sides so you will see it coming north or south on Route 206. Chairwoman LeFrois questioned: Similar to Dr. Fiore too? Mrs. Craddock stated: Yes and the accountant next to us. Chairwoman LeFrois stated: The size is within the sign ordinance. Mrs. Craddock stated: It is approximately the same size as the accountant next door. Mrs. Schulte questioned: Is it wood? Mrs. Craddock stated: No it is a material that looks like wood. It is a very high density of polypropylene that they can carve that won't warp, peel, and weather resistant for like 10 or 15 years. Chairwoman LeFrois questioned: Does anyone remember how many feet the sign has to be from the ground? Mr. Craddock stated: I'm not sure that we have that dimension. Mrs. Craddock stated: Whatever the ordinance says. Mrs. Craddock stated: It would be set so far from the sidewalk. Since we are on a corner it has to be setback in two dimensions. Line of site should not be an issue here at all. As far as height off the ground I think we would be reasonable proportion. Mr. Craddock questioned: Do they have a recommended height from the ground to the sign? Mrs. Schulte stated: I don't see it here. Chairwoman LeFrois stated: Ground signs shall not be closer than 20 feet. Mrs. Craddock stated: We measured the amount in between us and Dr. Fiore and we would have more than enough room. The accountant across the street is not an issue either.

Chairwoman LeFrois opened the floor to the public for comment. With no public coming forward Chairwoman LeFrois closed this portion of the meeting.

Mr. Kaplan approved the application as presented. Mr. Read second the motion.

AYE: Mr. Kaplan, Mr. Read, Mrs. Schulte, Chairwoman LeFrois

#2009-06 – Kevin T. Kutyla, LLC

Property Location: 83 Spring Street

Block: 716, Lot: 16.01

Requesting installation of raised letters.

Chairwoman LeFrois questioned: Mrs. Citterbart is this application in order? Mrs. Citterbart stated: Yes. Chairwoman LeFrois stated: Your building is located at the Cochran Building. If I am walking into the Cochran House building to right is the Liberty Tax and to the left is the Tax Board. Mr. Kutyla stated: Keep walking past Liberty Tax and I am right behind it. Chairwoman LeFrois stated: You are proposing to put this lettering above the tax office. Mr. Kutyla stated: You would be seeing it to the left and Liberty Tax would be on the right.

Chairwoman LeFrois questioned: If you could tell me what it is made out of, and sizing. What we don't have here is a picture going back a little bit so we have something to compare it to in terms of Liberty Tax sign. If you could run through it. Mr. Kutyla stated: It is designed to match the Liberty Tax sign as much as possible. The symmetry stays the same. The total height of the sign is 24." My name is 8" tall and Alicia's name is 8" tall. There is a gap differentiated between the different levels and the Law Office letters are 6" tall. They are affixed by threaded metal screws. They are made out of standard form plastic. Chairwoman LeFrois questioned: Is it going to be the same font? Mr. Kutyla stated: No one asked me to pick a font.

Chairwoman LeFrois stated: Let me remind the commission that this is what we knew we would be addressing sooner or later on this building was going to be the signage and making sure we did not exceed signage requirements and still give the appropriate respect to the businesses that are located within. Mr. Kutyla just for your addification, I am not sure how familiar you are with the Historic Ordinance and/or the Sign Ordinance in this town. There are sign ordinances that govern our decision with how the size of signs and with respect to signage of a building there is set dimension of how much signage can be on a building that incorporates signs on the building and signs in the windows. We don't have a building façade that looks like graffiti with signs. We knew that there was an open area on the left and we are also recognicent of signage requests for signage on the back of the building.

Chairwoman LeFrois opened the floor to the public for comment. With no public coming forward Chairwoman LeFrois closed this portion of the meeting.

Mr. Biuso stated: I would suggest that I give you my business card and we connect your sign person with my sign person. That way we make sure the fonts are the same.

Mr. Read questioned: It is going to be lighted? Mr. Kutyla stated: It is not going to be lighted. Mrs. Schulte questioned: It will be black lettering? Mr. Kutyla stated: It will be black lettering. Chairwoman LeFrois stated: It is almost like a copper lettering. Mrs. Schulte questioned: What about the scales. They are showing up gold here. They are not going to be plastic yellow look. Mr. Kutyla stated: I haven't seen them. There logo even though it is metal, it is red. Mine will be a muted gold, even though it will be plastic. It won't be like McDonalds bright yellow. Mr. Read questioned: When you move in do you know if that building will be full at that time? Mr. Kutyla stated: I don't know. Chairwoman LeFrois stated: No. We will come to an issue at some point about the signage.

Mrs. LeFrois made a motion to approve the application as stated with the additional requirements that Mr. Kutyla gets more specific information in terms of fonts and coloring

and coloring of his logo so that they are consistent with the rest of the signage on the building. Mr. Read second the motion.

Mrs. LeFrois stated: I am going to entertain a motion to amend the motion. When he comes back with final font and color, you can compare that to the county application and go ahead and sign off on that.

AYE: Mr. Kaplan, Mr. Read, Mrs. Schulte, Chairwoman LeFrois

#2009-03 – County of Sussex

Property Location: Newton Green

Planting plans & Maintenance schedules for flower bed for bell monument submitted for Veteran’s Monument Committee.

Sworn: Mr. Joe Biuso

Chairwoman LeFrois stated: I love the amount of thought that has gone into the being respectful of the different branches of service and their colors and how it is going to look. I love watching the different flowers coming into bloom around the monument. I think this is going to be a great addition to another anchor of the park at this monument. I think it will be very much appreciated and I hope people will look at it and say “those flowers are there because it represents the Navy or the Coast Guard.” Are you placing any little signs? Mr. Biuso stated: Yes and no. That depends on the approval of this commission. There are two thoughts on that. If you look at your drawing you will see dark dots that will appear to be within the concrete area. They will say plaque bronze medallion in the concrete. That is one concept. It would be about 5/16 to 1/8 of an inch thick and set within the surface of the concrete bonded with a poxy and would be the branch of service medallion. The other thought was to use a small piece of granite no more than one foot high by 14-16 inches wide. It would be semi-circular in shape with a flat surface that would face the person that was looking at that bed. On that would be mounted a metal plaque that would have the colors of the service and the branch of the service. I can show those to you. Chairwoman LeFrois questioned: How far off the concrete would that be? Mr. Biuso stated: I think it is going to be more of a function of laying out the flowers unless there is specific guidance that you wanted to provide. My personal preference is that it would be a bit off of the edge of the bed, no more than a foot off. Chairwoman LeFrois questioned: In the concrete or the dirt? Mr. Biuso stated: In the dirt. Chairwoman LeFrois stated: From a safety standpoint I was concerned if we should go with the raised there would be tripping hazard. Mr. Biuso stated: You have to remember that all the different service at these meetings they want to be able to identify because a lot of people don’t know the colors for each branch. They felt this would be good for interpretation to help people understand the various branches of the service. Chairwoman LeFrois stated: That was a question I had when I saw the plaque bronze medallion with concrete. I think it is a great idea to identify the branches. Mr. Biuso stated: What I would be concerned about is anything that would be in the bed if it became large it would become garish and overwhelming. I have been pushing to keep that as small as possible. We know that the monument is dedicated to all the branches from the enormous bronze medallion on the center but does not say it would relate to the various areas that are on here. You are working off the original engineering drawing. Let me give you this one because it has the merchant marine on it.

That is the one that is in the application. Mrs. Schulte stated: With the raised granite, in winter when the flowers are gone you are going to see the raised granite out there where the flat one in the ground. Mr. Biuso stated: The beds are not going to be bereft of color or visual interest in the winter. Barbara Abita wanted to create a place for reflection. The way she did that was by framing the circle of the concrete in a very low boxwood hedge. Because the slope falls away headed down the sidewalk you are going to start out on the uphill side with a very small boxwood hedge that is going to be somewhere between 12 to 14 inches high. As you work your way around to the center at the back of this where the slope is steepest the boxwood hedge is going to be a bit higher. It will be somewhere between 16 and 18 inches high. It is going to be like a crew cut almost. It is going to be level all the way around. It will be slightly higher in the back and taper down to a wedge in the front. At the end it is going to be anchored. You can see there is two VGS there which are ornamental grass that have a similar color to the boxwood. The idea is to create a visual separation to that portion of the monument. If you notice it says USA there. That USA designation is for the border area just inside of the boxwood. The colors we want to do there are red, white and blue. The PO's are poppies. In between the poppies will be annuals and bulbs that will be red, white and blue. At the end will be anchored with the bracket. Then you start to go into the branches of the service and then get into the individual colors for those. Timing is everything with plants. After the perennials come up there will be annuals that will be planted to fill in the spaces where the bulbs have been cut back to get the colors in where they belong. Then there will be another succession of perennials that are going to come out through the course of the year. Some perennials last for a long time. At the end of the season we do have a few very small pieces that are going to give some visual interest as well as the color after the regular flowering season is over. Don't mistake the scale of these objects for what they will actually look like. The largest ones are going to be 16 to 18 inches. The Montgomery spruce will give incredible blue color.

Chairwoman LeFrois questioned: In the summer when we have the crossroads of the sidewalk is that all sidewalk right now and we are cutting into it to make this? Mr. Biuso stated: There is a hole there now that has grass. I am pretty sure there was the lamp post there. Chairwoman LeFrois questioned: The grass we are going to have to dig up? Mr. Biuso stated: Yes. We are not going to get into the concrete there? Mr. Biuso stated: No. Chairwoman LeFrois questioned: If we cross over and at the X's is where we are putting the Air Force, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine? Mr. Biuso stated: Correct. Mrs. Schulte questioned: Do you have a preference in the cement recessed emblems versus the graves. Mr. Biuso stated: I would like to see them on small rocks within the beds themselves. I would rather not see them on the pavement. Unless we were to recess them into the concrete and get them down flush they could present a tripping hazard. Chairwoman LeFrois questioned: If you put the bronze placard they are going to be bronze not colored whereas the rocks will have the colored symbols. Mr. Biuso stated: They may have it either way. I would be concerned about a material that was not bronzed in direct contact with concrete because concrete is acidic and attacks metals. If you put something into the concrete that was not bronze you would have to put bond breaker between it to keep that reaction from occurring so that doesn't destroy the metal. I do not know the composition of the colored ones. If they were not bronzed they could react with concrete and fall apart. Chairwoman LeFrois questioned: Those will be sitting in granite if we talked about the ones sitting up. Mr. Buiso stated: They would be in a sitting bed of a poxy so that they were attached. Another thing to be concerned about is the possibility of someone wanting to pick one

of those things up. One of the things we would do is thread rod in the bottom of the stones put it down to the ground and put concrete into the ground. Chairwoman LeFrois questioned: All the preliminary work and the maintenance thereafter that is all you guys? Mr. Biuso stated: The purchase of all the materials is being provided by Veterans Committee. They have a fund that they have set aside for the next 10 years of annual maintenance. The people that do the work will be the master gardeners. They want to do the planting and they want to adopt it. They want to do the maintenance. Our commitment with them is that they have a space in the basement of Ginny's House where they can keep some hand tools, give them water, open the building up at 10:00 am on Friday morning, and close the building at 12:00 noon on Friday. They leave a couple of bags for us to clean up and that is all we have to deal with. Mr. Read questioned: When you say Veterans Committee do you mean the State or the County? Mr. Biuso stated: It was the Veterans Monument Committee. The folks who got together from the various VFW's, Foreign Legions and other organizations that got the money together for the Belmont. Barbara Abeta went out and solicited additional donations from wealthy benefactors in Sussex County and we have more donations for this.

Mr. Biuso questioned: Any preference as far as the plaques? Chairwoman LeFrois questioned: Mr. Read do you have a preference? The stone semi-circle flat standing up as opposed to something that lies in the concrete? Mr. Read stated: I would like to see a stone with it. Are they the ones that are set in? Mr. Biuso stated: No. They would be set at an angle into a piece of granite. Chairwoman LeFrois stated: I would imagine the pot would have to be not more than a foot or so. Mr. Biuso stated: Not more than a foot. At the most 16 inches. If you would like to specify that I wouldn't mind seeing that on a piece of paper because that will help me when it comes to dealing with them. I can just say to them that this is what the commission wanted. Chairwoman LeFrois stated: Do you have any guidance? Not more than 16 inches? Mr. Biuso stated: I was thinking the base of the stone shouldn't be any more than 18 inches in width and the top of the stone should be somewhere between 12 to 14 inches high. It would be like a semi-circle.

Chairwoman LeFrois opened the floor to the public. With no public coming forward this portion of the meeting was closed.

Mr. Read stated: Looking into the future, as the bulbs multiply and the master gardener will have to cut back I think it would be a good idea to supply the extra flowers for the County Homestead for their gardens. Make an arrangement that is where they go as they downsize the garden and they can multiply elsewhere so the senior citizens can enjoy them. Mrs. Schulte stated: The master gardeners do it now.

Mr. Read questioned: The County would be watering it? Mr. Biuso stated: One thing we have to do is amend the existing sprinkling system that is at the park. They will be on an automatic circuit. The master gardeners will have the maintenance plans.

Chairwoman LeFrois made a motion to accept the application as presented in addition to specifying that the backing of the plaque be a raised plaque from granite to match the

**existing granite of the benches in the monument. The size should not exceed 12” x 18”.
Mr. Kaplan second the motion.**

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Schulte made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Read second the motion. The meeting was adjourned with a unanimous “aye” vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm. The next regular scheduled meeting will be held on August 17, 2009 at 7:00 pm in the council chambers of the Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Citterbart
Historic Board Secretary