



**Landmark Preservation Board
Thursday, March 18, 2021**

Meeting Minutes

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CALL TO ORDER

Chair Don Radke called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Tom Cantwell, Cynthia Carter, Bob Haley, Dan Leary, Julia Marshall, Jeff Romano, Don Radke, Lisa Tonzi

Staff: Kate Auwaerter

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

J. Romano made a motion to approve the minutes of March 4, 2021, which was seconded by T. Cantwell. The minutes were approved unanimously with the following revisions:

CA-21-01 (M1): 506 W. Onondaga Street.

The revisions to the glass vestibule include the ~~edition~~ *addition* of a low, opaque, etched-glass panel to the side of the entrance doors on the north and south elevations and a push bar on each door...

The signage plan includes a sign on the canopy of the drive-thru teller and a tall ground sign located close to W.

Onondaga Street. The ground sign consists of a tall brick base with an internally lit sign. The brick base will match the color of the brick on the house. The total height of the base and sign is 20'. Board members noted that the sign was too tall and *not appropriately* scaled ~~for automobiles rather than pedestrians~~ *for the residential character of the site*. J.

Romano recommended scaling the sign back by 25-30% in order to be more compatible with the residential character of the site. D. Leary agreed, recommending that it should be no more than 8' tall. He also recommended that the building number below the Pathfinder logo sign should not be illuminated. The board recommended that the project team consider reducing the size and scale of the sign and *that it use features of the house to help inform the design of the sign*. The board also recommended that the project team double check the sign ordinance to determine what is allowable in this zoning district. The application was held open pending the submission of new drawings for the ground sign.

OLD BUSINESS

CA-21-01 (M1): 506 W. Onondaga Street. Edward Barry (VIP Structures) presented the revised design for the pole sign on the front lawn of the former house. He noted that the height had been reduced by 2' and that the sign itself was reduced in area to 9'x 9'. In discussion, the consensus of the board was that the scale remained too large for the historic residential character of the site. E. Barry stated that the height could be reduced by another couple of feet, but that Pathfinder Bank was concerned about potential vandalism of the sign. B. Haley made a motion to approve the application, excluding the sign. The motion was seconded by D. Leary, but the motion failed. T. Cantwell made a motion to approve the application with the condition that the height of the sign be reduced to 16'. The motion was seconded by L. Tonzi. This motion also failed. After further discussion, E. Barry agreed to discuss the sign design again with Pathfinder Bank and provide the board with alternative designs that were acceptable to bank. The application was held open.

NEW BUSINESS

CA 21-02: 110 Burlingame Road. Isabel Prochner (applicant) presented her application for a new paint scheme for her c. 1960 house. The house body will be dark blue (Behr, *Midnight Blue*), the garage and dining room door will be white (Behr, *Cottage White*) and the front and rear kitchen door will be yellow (Behr, *Plantain*

Chips). C. Carter made a motion to approve the application as submitted, which was seconded by J. Marshall. The motion carried unanimously.

CA 21-03: 102 Sedgwick Drive. Jennifer Slifka (applicant) presented her application with the following scope of work: Repaint the shutters on the house from dark green to dark blue (Sherwin Williams, *Salty Dog*) and the front door from burgundy to red (Sherwin Williams, *Show Stopper*); install a 6', solid, flat-top, cedar, privacy fence along the rear (east) property line; install a decorative 6', aluminum fence along a portion of the south property line between the garage to a point at the southeast edge of the house and install a matching arched, aluminum gate between the southeast corner of the house and the new fence along the south property line. The fence and gate will feature decorative fleur-de-lis picket ends and decorative open circles below the top rail. J. Sifka explained that the fence and gate would be visible from Sedgwick Drive and were intended to mirror the look of the entrance gate at James Street, which features similar decorative details.

In discussion, the board noted that the proposed decorative fence and gate were reminiscent of 19th- century period fence and gate design. The board recommended a simplified version that would be more compatible and with the early 20th-century historic character of the house and surrounding district. The applicant noted that the entrance gate as well as other fences within the neighborhood had these features. Board members responded that the entrance gate had not come for review by the board. It also noted that decorative fences were generally discouraged within the district. After further discussion with the applicant, J. Marshall made a motion to approve the proposed shutter and door paint colors, the rear cedar fence and the aluminum fence with the following condition: that the aluminum fence and gate shall be simplified with the removal of the fleur-de-lis decorative picket ends. The decorative circle features and the arch of the gate could remain. C. Carter seconded the motion, which was approved by majority vote with B. Haley voting to deny.

CA 21-04: 12 Brattle Road. Brian Rautio presented an application for new construction and site work. The scope of work includes the construction of a hipped roof, 20'-8"x 20'-8" garage with a 12'x11' attached storage shed at the southwest corner of the parcel. The garage and shed will be shingle sided and will feature overhanging eaves with rafter tails, custom light fixtures and an asphalt shingle roof (GAF Timerline HDZX in Oyster Grey) to match the house roof. The garage will have two bays with paneled garage doors featuring a top row of square fixed lites. The shed portion will feature a projecting bay window facing north and an entrance on the east side with paneled wood door. The curve of the driveway will be realigned slightly to accommodate the new garage. The stucco on the house will be painted dark grey (Benjamin Moore, Storm) with white trim. A boxwood hedge will be planted to conceal the AC compressor at the northwest corner of the house. A small, 10'x10' slate patio will be installed at the bottom of the veranda steps on the north side of the veranda. Finally, ground cover (cutleaf stephanandra) will be installed on the sloping site above Brattle Road for erosion control.

The board was appreciative of the application, in particular of the design of the garage which references the design of the house in its roof shape, materials and decorative features. L. Tonzi stated that she hoped that the owners were recording the restoration of the house and that the quality of the restoration is worthy of publication. B. Haley made a motion to approve the application as submitted, which was seconded by L. Tonzi. The motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION

Gillett House update: K. Auwaertert reported that the complete collapse of the rear addition of the Gillett House had pulled down a portion of the rear wall of the main structure. The director and deputy director of Code Enforcement, B. Haley, J. Romano and K. Auwaertert met with two of the owners on site on 3/10/21 to discuss the future of the building. K. Auwaertert reported that Code Enforcement requires that the owners secure the building from further collapse, but would not require demolition at this point. The owners have hired Klepper, Hahn & Hyatt to prepare a stabilization plan for the building and have decided to mothball the building rather than demolish it. She noted that this decision is welcome and has bought the building time while a new use is sought for the structure.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 9:57 AM.