

Shepherdstown Historic Landmarks Commission

September 17, 2009

Town Hall, 7 p.m.

1. Call meeting to order. 7:04
2. Approval of August 10, 2009. S. Nash requested that a line in page four (4) paragraph three (3), read as “a window is an opportunity to lose energy...” Requested the addition of the following handouts at the end of the 8/17/2009 minutes: SHLC window guidelines, Department of Interior Preservation Brief #9, and “energy payback” graphic. J. Shank move to approve the minutes with changes; J. Hurley seconded; unanimous with changes.
3. Conflicts of Interest: J. Shank will abstain from voting on application #09-32 for a sign change as the tenant is in his building.
- 4 Visitors: Tripp Lowe, Kaitlyn Price; Luke Menefee
- 5 Administration Report: Update on historic survey—David Taylor reports that all of the fieldwork is complete and he is putting together the photos and the survey forms. He will be stopping in Charleston later this month and will go through the files at archives to glean any information from earlier survey data that they might have. Everything is on schedule and no problems envisioned.

6. Applications:

#09-30, *Glenn Kinser, 220 W. German Street, handmade wrought iron safety rail on front and rear entrances.* Applicant was not in attendance and HLC was unable to determine for the drawings the design of the front rail, and questioned if it was appropriate to the architecture. HLC approved the design of the rail at the rear entrance; HLC had no objections to the rails in principle, but tabled approval on the front entrance handrail design pending more information.

#09-31, *Yellow Brick Bank (Ken and Tripp Lowe), 201 East German Street.* Enclose a wood storage area in rear. Fence and gate on Princess Street side to shield view of trash area. Install six (6) electric/gas lights on the exterior the building.

Tripp Lowe presented the application: (1) in the rear of building a wood bin that is currently covered with a blue tarp would be enclosed by a shed, plus some landscaping to make it more aesthetically pleasing. (2) Gate/fence on Princess Street side to shield trash/garbage container area; the gated system would keep out stray animals the applicant says are often found there on a foraging mission. (3) Install exterior gas lights on the building.

HLC handled the single application in two parts—the wood structures and the light additions. The shield shed for the wood was approved as designed; the fence/gate to shield the trash container area was approved—if PC feels the structure meets regulations—with the stipulation that the height be lowered to six (6) feet, to which the applicant agreed.

A.Chakmakian made a motion to approve the wood structures with the stipulation that the gate/fence height be lowered to six (6) feet; J. Hurley seconded; passed unanimously.

HLC recommended in concept the exterior gas lighting, but concluded the style/design was in conflict with the building, which was described as a Beaux-arts building with a Greek Revival addition, with the proposed fixtures Colonial in style. The applicant agreed to seek a light fixture design/style more in keeping with the style/tradition of the building (as in: beaux art, art deco, or art nouveau). HLC reserved the right for final approval of the light fixture design/style.

J. Hurley made a motion on the light fixtures, approving the concept of exterior gas lighting, provided that style/design of the fixtures are more in keeping with the style/tradition of the building (as in: beaux art, art deco, or art nouveau). HLC reserved the right of final recommendation of the light fixture design/style. J. Shank seconded. Motioned passed unanimously.

s#09-32, Lucas Pierce, 141 West German Street, business sign update. The sign, which will remain the same size, will change from vertical to horizontal and it will hang higher from the sidewalk. Applicant is trying to emphasize the restaurant rather than the tea room. A. Chakmakian moved to approve; J. Hurley seconded; passed with J. Shank abstaining because of a conflict of interest.

#09-33, *Christine Parfitt, 103 N. Princess Street, repaint house exterior with new colors.* J. Shank moved to approve; A. Chakmakian seconded; passed unanimously.

#09-34, *St. Agnes Parrish Center (Mathew Rowgh), 106 South Duke Street. Fence along three sides of the yard at the rear of the St. Agnes Rectory.* HLC felt the solid-board style was not appropriate on the New Street side as the ordinance requires an open fence on a side yard facing a street. J. Hurley motioned that HLC recommend an open fence on the New Street side, and recommend as designed the other two sides; J. Shank seconded; passed unanimously.

6 **Old Business:** Guidelines: Zoning officer working on “demolition by neglect” issue.

7 **New Business:** Consideration of emailing monthly packets and eliminating hard copy hand delivered packets. A. Chakmakian said email was fine.

J. Shank proposed that HLC meetings make a temporary shift in meeting dates so that members could attend a monthly Jefferson County History Lecture series. Members agreed to pursue moving to second Wednesday of every month until the lecture series ends.

J. Hurley moved to adjourn; A. Chakmakian seconded; passes unanimously. HLC adjourned at 8:27.