



**Landmark Preservation Board
Thursday, March 20, 2014**

Meeting Minutes

Common Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Tom Cantwell, Bob Haley, Dan Leary, Julia Marshall, Don Radke, Jeff Romano, Joe Saya

Excused: Cynthia Carter

Staff: Kate Auwaerter

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

D. Leary made a motion to accept the minutes of March 6, 2014, which was seconded by J. Marshall. The motion passed unanimously with the following correction:

CA-14-01: 501 Park Street former Holy Trinity Church/Northside Learning Ctr). D. Leary emphasized the importance of creating a watertight cap and that they should hire someone trained in traditional building materials to identify and install the appropriate cap. *In addition, the crosses will need to be photo documented thoroughly, including how each is attached to the building to facilitate future reinstallation.*

OLD BUSINESS

Project Site Review: 205-09 E. Jefferson Street. The applicant was not present. However, the Board noted that the revised plans (dated 3/16/14) reflected in general the review comments that the Board had discussed with the project architect at the March 6, 2014 meeting. The Board recommended approval of the project with the following comments: The use of cellular PVC should be limited to the trim along the baseboards below the shopfront windows only. This is acceptable in this location due to the potential for excessive water and salt exposure. Other trim around doors and windows identified as a PVC product should be aluminum clad to match the storefront system. The Board also recommended that the new trimboard cornice should be either *wood, cementboard or a-banded aluminum of a proper thickness to avoid rippling or "oil-panning"*, rather than the PVC product described in the drawings.

Project Site Review: 237-43 E. Genesee Street. R. Crawford (Crawford & Stearns Architects) was present at the meeting to describe the project. The application calls for replacing in-kind all the double-hung windows on the property (existing windows are all 25-year old wood replacements) and rearranging the E. Genesee Street storefronts primarily for accessibility. On the Montgomery Street side, the plans call for shortening an existing doorway into a window opening and creating a second new window opening next to it, both on the first floor. The Board recommended approval of the application as submitted.

Project Site Review: 205 + 213 Schuyler St/216 N. Lowell Ave. K. Auwaerter reported that the requested lighting and landscape plans had not yet been submitted to Zoning for this project.

CA-14-01: 501 Park Street (former Holy Trinity Church/Northside Learning Ctr). K. Auwaerter reported that the applicants were compiling new information and had asked to be on the 4/3 meeting agenda. D. Radke addressed several people in attendance for this application, requesting that they submit any comments regarding the project in writing to the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

CA-14-02: 1234 James Street. The applicant was not present. The Certificate of Appropriateness application calls for the installation of new wooden steps off the rear deck of condominium unit #3 at the Bishops House. K. Auwaerter explained that each of the ground-floor condominiums were designed to have steps with simple wood handrails leading off rear decks, but the original owner of unit #3 had not wanted the steps. The new owner is applying to install the steps. K. Auwaerter noted that the proposed plans indicate pressure-treated wood steps and railings. J. Marshall made a motion to approve the application with the following conditions: pressure treated wood may be used for structural members only; treads, risers, skirting, railing, etc., must be a finished painted wood (white); and porch skirting must have a square lattice design to match other appropriate skirting. D. Leary seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Project Site Review (Modification): 601-11 + 615 S. Crouse Ave. Ed Harrington (architect) presented the revised plans for the new apartment building. He noted that load testing had indicated that the soil could not support the proposed 5-story building without deep foundations. As a result, the developer is now proposing to remove a story and eliminate the ground-floor garage, reducing the number of units from 100 to 80. The overall design of the building has not changed from previous submissions. The Board reviewed the information and determined that the alterations would lessen the visual impact on the adjoining historic property, the former Temple Adath Yeshurun (Hotel Skyler). The Board recommended approval of the application as modified.

Special Permit (Modification): 717 N. Salina Street. The Board reviewed the information regarding the proposed internally-lit box sign to replace a vinyl banner sign. In its review, it noted that there is a large projecting sign above the storefront as well. The Board recommended against approval of the signage as proposed because the size and number of signs (wall sign in addition to the projecting sign) would be detrimental to the historic character of the building and surrounding district. The Board recommended that one of the signs be removed – either the wall sign or the hanging sign. It also recommended that if the wall sign remained, it should be no wider than the width between the two columns that frame the storefront.

DISCUSSION

Lower Onondaga Park Master Plan. Glen Lewis (City Parks Department) and Jeremy Heiser (QPK Design) presented a master plan for the development of Lower Onondaga Park. G. Lewis discussed the overall planning history regarding Onondaga Park (Upper and Lower) and the review requirements established by the Memorandum of Agreement between Parks and the State Historic Preservation Office regarding the park. J. Heiser presented a new comprehensive master plan for Lower Onondaga Park, which includes many features including a new splash pad in the area of the former Star Lake, play areas including a mini-drumlin field, the reinstatement of the formal garden, tree planting, expansion of the greenhouses, etc. The Phase I of the project, which includes the spray fountain and playground areas, is scheduled to be constructed this year. The Board had a number of questions about the plan, especially about the proposed mini-drumlins which would be made from the fill taken from the area around the splash pad. B. Haley asked specifically about the tree planting plan and asked to see a plan that will describe the tree massing versus the open space compared with historic aerial imagery. He also encouraged the designers not to try to introduce too many new features into the park. The presenters indicated that they would return with additional information as the site design for Phase I is developed.

ADJOURN

D. Leary made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by T. Cantwell. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.