



**Landmark Preservation Board  
Thursday, July 21, 2011**

Meeting Minutes

8:30 am Common Council Chambers

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Louise Birkhead, Dan Leary, Julia Marshall, Don Radke, Joe Saya.

Excused: Tim Bonaparte, Bob Haley, Jeff Romano

Staff: Kate Auwaerter

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

J. Marshall made a motion to accept the minutes of July 7, 27, 2011, which was seconded by D. Leary. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**

CA-11-11 223 Dewitt Street. No new information had been provided and the board agreed to hold the application open.

CA-11-19 501 Sedgwick Drive. The applicant was not present at the meeting. D. Radke reminded the board that at the last meeting the board had discussed the application and the fact that front yard fences were not recommended in the Sedgwick/Highland/James Preservation District. The board had requested that the applicant attend the next meeting to discuss the application and any extenuating circumstances that might allow for the front yard fence. He went on to note that the applicant was not present but had provided a letter indicating examples of other front yard fences in the preservation district. He stated that these fences were either installed prior to the Landmark Preservation Ordinance or had been installed without permit or a Certificate of Appropriateness. He reiterated that the Sedgwick/Highland/James design guidelines do not recommend front yard fences because they are incompatible with the open character of the historic designed landscape. Finally, he noted that children coming into the yard is an issue for the police department. D. Leary made a motion to deny the application as submitted, which was seconded by J. Marshall. The motion carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

CA-11-20 244 Brattle Road. Mike and Marilouise Mattson presented their application to install a flat-top red cedar fence along the rear property line, replacing an existing picket-style fence. The only change would be a short extension of fence from northeast corner of the rear property line to the garage. D. Leary made a motion to accept the application as submitted, which was seconded by L. Birkhead. The application was approved unanimously.

CA-11-21 121 East Water Street/Gere Building. The applicant was not present at the meeting. The application calls for the installation of hard fiberglass tread covers over the granite stairs that are currently crumbling. D. Radke noted that safety is a key concern for the applicants. He referred the board to an email comment from Randy Crawford (Crawford & Stearns Architects) suggesting that the tread covers might exacerbate the deterioration. Instead, R. Crawford recommended using a high quality masonry patching material (Jahn 160) and recommended that the applicants contact Viau Construction about this

product. D. Leary stated that he did not believe that the patch would hold up on the stairs. He also said that all the solutions suggested were “band aid” solutions that could not substitute for replacing the stone with new stone. D. Radke noted that the applicants had indicated that the cost of replacement was prohibitive. The board, however, felt that the applicants needed a “second opinion”. In regard to the tread covers, the board determined that it did not know enough about the product to be able to make a decision and discussed the fact that the covers would not be able to match the bull-nose profile of the existing steps. The board requested that the applicant either provide a detailed proposal for review or have a qualified contractor who knows the project meet with the board to discuss. D. Leary said he would provide names of qualified masons to staff to share with the applicants.

CA-11-22 113 Hampshire Road. Randy Coogan (architect) presented the application to reconfigure a rear kitchen addition on the rear of the property. The one-story addition has a flat roof that is leaking. The owners would like to remove the flat roof and install a hip roof and rearrange windows and door openings on the addition. D. Leary commented and the board agreed that the hip roof was incompatible with the rest of the house. He also suggested that moving the large bay window from the south facade to the west facade of the addition might not be possible if it had a terne metal roof due to the potential for lead contamination. After some discussion about the other aspects of the redesign, the board concluded that in concept the relocation and reuse of the windows and doors was acceptable, although the new roofline was not. The applicant agreed to discuss the roof with the owners. He also said he would submit catalogue cuts for the new windows and doors. It was also noted that if the owners did decide to retain the flat roof that the addition might need a railing.

Project Site Review (modification) 1055 E. Genesee Street. Ed Harrington presented the modification to the original plan which consisted of moving an exit stair on the Amory building from the west façade to the east. The reason for the redesign was so that the stair would be able to meet with the sidewalk. The materials and form of the stairwell would not change, only the location. The board agreed to recommend approval of the modification as submitted.

Sign Waiver: 121-23 + 127-29 W. Fayette Street. The board agreed that the proposed sign did balance out the façade by matching the dimensions of the sign over the adjoining storefront. However, it also noted that then both signs would be larger than is allowable by the Sign Ordinance. It requested information regarding how the first sign was installed and did it come under any review.

### **DISCUSSION**

Welcome new board member Joe Saya and farewell to Fouad Dietz. D. Radke welcomed Joe Saya to the board. He also asked for a motion for a resolution expressing thanks to Fouad Dietz for all his years of service to the Landmark Preservation Board. J. Marshall made the motion, which was seconded by L. Birkhead.

### **ADJOURN**

J. Marshall made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by L. Birkhead. The meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.