



*SYRACUSE
LANDMARK
PRESERVATION
BOARD*

Thursday, September 16, 2010
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, Kelly Colabello, Fouad Dietz, Bob Haley, Julia Marshall, Don Radke, and Jeff Romano

Excused: Tim Bonaparte, Dan Leary

Staff: Kate Auwaerter

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

F. Dietz made a motion to accept the minutes, which was seconded by L. Birkhead. The minutes were approved unanimously as submitted.

OLD BUSINESS

CA-10-18: 1666 James Street: K. Auwaerter reported that she was gathering information regarding steel window repair and replacement. At the request of the board, she has put in a request to use the services of Crawford & Stearns to evaluate the condition of the windows at 1666 James Street. Considering limited funds in the city's architectural technical services contract, the board speculated whether or not the property owner could be asked to contribute to the cost of the evaluation. B. Haley recommended that technical services be offered to property owners for guidance purposes only and to help lay out "next-steps", which would assist the board in making its determinations too.

NEW BUSINESS

Project Site Review: 401 S. Clinton Street. K. Auwaerter reviewed the project that includes the upgrade to the former Shoppers Garage at the corner of Walton and S. Clinton streets. This property is a non-contributing structure in the Armory Square Historic District, but occupies a highly visible location that will soon be given added prominence with the construction of the Pike Block and renovations to the Landmark Theater. The project includes: Scrape and paint exterior; paint stairwell interiors; sandblast and seal stairs; remove the glass block windows in the stair tower and replace with aluminum/glass system (or to add the glass wall as shown on the plans that were provided); construct a cornice at the roof top to be finished with EIFS; replace existing "park" sign with new illuminated sign; and install an aluminum entrance canopy over the sidewalk. It was noted that the property was constructed in the 1950s and B. Haley spoke strongly in favor of retaining the building's original form, design and materials. F. Dietz noted that the proposed windows and/or curtain wall will be an improvement to the safety of the building and good for the district. J. Marshall noted that the new cornice and signage will increase the height and massing of the tower; the signage in particular will now read as part of the building rather than as an appendage. The board also questioned the need for the projecting canopy and the canopy signage, and the purpose and materials of the new panels above the canopy. The board noted discrepancies between the rendering and the drawings. Finally, it noted that the elevations did not indicate what would be proposed for the street-facing façade of the tower should the curtain wall not be constructed. In order to answer these questions, the board requested that the applicant attend the next meeting.

DISCUSSION

CLG grant application. K. Auwaerter reported that she had submitted a CLG grant for a residential survey on the city's Southside (former Village of Danforth area). The purpose of the survey is not only to collect valuable documentation of the residential resources within the neighborhood, but to involve the residents in the survey

process and build grass-roots support for neighborhood preservation. This area was selected because of the number of demolitions that have occurred in this neighborhood over the last several years. K. Auwaerter also noted that this will also be an opportunity to test the new database system that the City has purchased to track data on all parcels within the city.

Scottholm Survey update. K. Auwaerter also reported that a class of Cornell University students has begun an intensive-level survey of the Scottholm neighborhood. The purpose is to lay the groundwork for a potential National Register nomination. The students will complete a historic context statement, recommend potential NR boundaries, and complete individual survey forms of approximately 175 properties.

309 Van Rensselaer. K. Auwaerter is planning a site visit to review the interior and exterior of 309 Van Rensselaer, which the owner is forwarding for Local Protected Site status.

PACNY Walking tour of Park Ave: J. Romano announced that he would be hosting a walking/house tour of the Park Avenue neighborhood on October 3 from 2-4pm. Flyers will be distributed shortly.

Kelly Colabello resignation. Due to family scheduling difficulties, K. Colabello announced that she would be stepping down from the board. D. Radke thanked her for her service to the board and noted that she will missed.

ADJOURN

F. Dietz made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by J. Marshall. The meeting adjourned at 9:07 a.m.