

HISTORIC VERMILION DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

Meeting Minutes of July 7, 2021 @ 6:00 pm

Roll Call: Robbie Brown, Judy Williams, Marilou Suszko, Susan Cairns. Absent: Brenda Miklos

Robbie Brown, Chairwoman called the Wednesday, July 7, 2021 meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

M. Suszko MOVED, S. Cairns seconded to approve the meeting minutes of June 2, 2021. Roll Call Vote 4 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

OLD BUSINESS:

Marilou Suszko said the sign that “Readings by Lana” put up is hard to read and they need to create materials to get to the applicants prior to the meetings, so she started one on color combinations. She said it is unfortunate as the color she is using is yellow on white. R. Brown said the color was supposed to be gold and she went to light. She said they will schedule a meeting possibly in September to go over some of the rules and guidelines as they are outdated.

NEW BUSINESS:

(Residential) Applicant: Patricia Stein - 5718 Huron Street (Garage)

P. Stein explained she is plans to install a plain four-panel single-car garage door in white.

S. Cairns MOVED; R. Williams seconded to approve the garage as proposed. Roll Call Vote 4 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

(Commercial) Applicant: Old Prague Restaurant - 5586 Liberty Avenue (Stage)

This matter was tabled to next month’s meeting as the applicant was not in attendance.

(Residential) Applicant: Cory Rebman – 5157 South Street (Fence)

This matter was tabled to next month’s meeting as the applicant was not in attendance.

(Residential) Applicant: Charles & Margaret Wakefield Worcester - 5679 Huron Street (Windows/Trim)

M. Wakefield Worcester said she is replacing the bay window as it is 25 years old, and the window is not good anymore. She is replacing with Pella windows of like-kind. She commended the Historic Board for their work to preserve the downtown historic district. She thought the city should mail a brochure to all

residents in the historic district, which notifies them they are required to come before the board if they make changes to their home.

M. Suszko MOVED, R. Brown seconded to approve the application as submitted for the bay window as presented above. Roll Call Vote 4 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

(Residential) Applicant: Tom Dunfee – 5741 Liberty Avenue (Windows/Trim

Tom Dunfee explained that he replaced 10 upper windows on the home. He noted he was advised by the building inspector that he did not need a permit. He said he did not know he was to come before the board for approval. (Clerks Note: Upon checking with the building inspector on this matter, he noted the applicant was advised he needed a permit of which they received). T. Dunfee said the windows are rotted and are in bad condition so he would like to replace 12-13 windows in the lower level of the home in vinyl clad white. M. Suszko said this is one of the highest profiled houses and one of their last remaining historic houses and coming into town this is one of the first houses that greet people. She asked what he did on the outside of the home as it appears he shortened the window. T. Dunfee said it is the same material below the window, but it has been improved. He was going to paint it the same color as the downstairs. M. Suszko said the board needs visuals. T. Dunfee said he can send pictures. R. Brown said it appears there is a difference from the second floor to the first floor. T. Dunfee said the white probably stands out. He would like to paint it the same as the bottom, which is a greenish color, so that it matches. He has the exact same paint color as it was left for him when he purchased the property. J. Williams asked how soon he was planning to do these changes. T. Dunfee said the second-floor windows are in and the trim is not painted on the bottom of the windows. He plans on doing the same thing on the first floor by painting them green too. He needs to do this work right away because the windows are bad. R. Brown asked if he was rezoning the property to commercial since he is doing apartments. T. Dunfee said it was commercial and he rezoned it as residential. He plans on having four apartments.

M. Suszko said the board deals with the visuals downtown and it hard for the board to make decisions when they do not have something to look at. She asked if he was keeping all the colors the same. S. Cairns asked if apartments are considered to be commercial. T. Dunfee said he talked with the city about this and said there is no reason he could not go residential. J. Williams asked if he would be living on the premises and T. Dunfee replied no.

S. Cairns said old paint may not look good once he puts it up. He said he replaced an old door on the back of the house and used the paint and they could not tell a difference; it is the same. S. Cairns asked if they could table this until they get some visuals. R. Brown said the board is an advisory board only to residential, so the applicant is before them as a courtesy. T. Dunfee said there is a two-car detached garage and he will be replacing those doors as they will not open, and they are rotted. He asked if he needed approval. R. Brown said the board is here to guide him on planning his colors and keeping the look of the historic Harbourtown. She asked if he wanted to come back to the board with colors of the garage. T. Dunfee

said he is probably going with the cheapest garage door, which will be white. However, he is not going to replace this quite yet. He asked the board if they have to approve landscaping. R. Brown said the board does help with landscaping and they encourage residents to come with a plan.

S. Cairns MOVED to approve the windows as described above – No second to the motion was entertained.

(Commercial) Applicant: Susan Fischer – 5483 Liberty/664 Exchange (Exterior Painting)

Dave Volak representing the applicant said they will paint the exterior of the building of like-kind. However, they will paint the shutters black which will match the door. The shutters are currently plum.

M. Suszko MOVED, J. Williams seconded to approve the improvements as submitted. Roll Call Vote 4 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

(Residential) Applicant: Martin Beursken – 5387 Ohio Street (Roofing)

The applicant was not in attendance. It was noted this was an emergency roof repair.

(Residential) Applicant: Bret & Lynn Pilny – 5320 Ohio Street (Siding, Doors, Fence)

Bret and Lynn Pilny provided the board with a complete visual packet describing their improvements of the property. They plan to replace the siding (white) to north side of house and to reopen the rear door to driveway. The fence will be placed starting from corner of house along neighbor's driveway – 32' long white privacy 6' tall. There will be seven panels. The board reviewed the plans and had no further comments.

R. Brown MOVED, M. Suszko seconded to approve the improvements as submitted and described. Roll Call Vote 4 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

ADJOURNMENT:

R. Brown adjourned the meeting upon no further discussion.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, August 4, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.
@ Vermilion Municipal Complex, 687 Decatur Street, Vermilion

Transcribed by Gwen Fisher, Certified Municipal Clerk