

**Village of Penn Yan Historic Preservation Commission
Meeting Minutes February 12, 2019**

111 Elm Street

5:30 pm EXECUTIVE SESSION ROOM

Present: Brenda Ingram-Chairperson, Shirley Owens, Christopher Wright, Andy Baus, Rich Stewart-VB Liaison

Absent: Marcia Kneeland, Fran Dumas, Jacky Olevnik, Lynn Duryea-Secy

Public Present: John Potter, Teresa Hoban, Sam Castner

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FIRST ITEM: Application from Teresa Hoban for business signage at 144 Main Street.

Teresa Hoban was present. Commissioner Wright asked Ms. Hoban for an explanation of the Alupalite sign material. She said it was the brand name for a material that was powder-coated aluminum on the exterior and plastic on the interior. She said the sign content would be vinyl applied to the Alupalite sign board. She mentioned she chose a less expensive material because she was hoping for a DRI award. If she got the award she said the sign would come down and a nicer one would go up.

A **MOTION** by Chris Wright and a **SECOND** from Andy Baus to approve the application for new business signage as depicted in color rendering submitted with application.

Shirley Owens – aye. Christopher Wright – aye. Andy Baus - aye. **Motion carried.**

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NEXT ITEM: Return of John Potter with window specs for 3rd floor front and rear at 114-116 Main Street.

John Potter was present. Commissioner Wright asked to see the original application because he was not present at the January meeting. Chairperson Ingram informed him the application had been tabled at the last meeting. Mr. Potter said the rear windows didn't have the circle-top; the top sash was non-existent and they were closed in with plywood. Commissioner Owens pointed out the front windows did have rounded tops. Mr. Potter said he planned to replace the front windows with ones that had a rounded arch at the top. Commissioner Wright pointed out the original rear windows were not arched. He said they were square at the top and the front had a sash that mimicked an arc on the exterior. He indicated the replacement windows must be the same. Mr. Potter said he brought warrantee information showing the life expectancy of the windows as requested at the prior meeting. He said he was proposing vinyl double-hung windows. Commissioner Wright asked if he had been informed at the last meeting that vinyl was not allowed in the Historic District and Mr. Potter said he had not been told that. Commissioner Wright said aluminum-clad wood was OK. Mr. Potter said the manufacturer information stated the vinyl windows proposed were routinely used on historic structures and he had researched rounded-top windows from 10 window manufacturers only to learn the cost for them would be prohibitive at around \$3,000.00 each. Commissioner Wright conveyed to Mr. Potter that he had the following 3 options for window approval;

- 1.) Restoration of original wooden windows
- 2.) Replace with wooden windows with the same radius, profile, etc. as original
- 3.) Replace with aluminum-clad wood with the same radius, profile, etc. as original

Mr. Potter said he would need to talk to the building owner and come back before the commission again.

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NEXTT ITEM: Application from Sam Castner for façade work and signage at 7 Main Street.

Sam Castner was present There was in-depth discussion about the shingled section of the façade that Mr. Castner was proposing to replace with a holographic-style stainless steel panel. He mentioned he planned to work around the existing awning brackets in that area that were not going to be removed. Commissioner Owens asked if there was any glass behind the shingles and Mr. Castner said there was not. She then asked if the window glass went all the way up to the shingles on the inside. Mr. Castner said there was a plywood panel that closed in an electrical fire alarm where a transom window may have been. Some of the commissioners were in agreement the steel panel was not consistent with characteristics of the historic building. Mr. Castner said he was open to other ideas. Commissioner Baus pointed out it would be tough to establish if the steel panel was historically accurate or not so they should instead focus on whether it would add or detract from the other historic buildings on the block. He shared his opinion that the holographic steel panel did not look bad or wrong and seemed to tie in all other proposed motifs on facade. Mr. Castner said the point was to be visually similar to the same business located in Barrington so people who knew the Barrington business would recognize it. He said they also wanted to stand out from all other restaurants in town and have a unique look. He contended stainless steel would resist aging better than other materials. Commissioner Wright said he personally liked the look of the panel but it was not appropriate for the Historic Preservation District since there were no others similar. He suggested white metal instead. Mr. Castner said they wanted warm, earthy, dark tones and suggested they could substitute rusted steel that would be attractive when oiled or even painted. Commissioner Wright suggested using copper. Mr. Castner said copper would turn chocolate brown over time then mentioned paints that mimicked metals like copper. He also mentioned using an aluminum panel that would look flat gray and could have spirals added with an orbital sander. He said he planned to paint the awning and drip edge with Rustoleum for a hammered copper finish. The commissioners looked at Mr. Castner’s sign depiction page and page with samples of brackets that were all similar in size and material to the shiny copper bracket shown with the sign. Mr. Castner indicated he would stay with a wheat or grain-style bracket chosen from the sample page in the same size as the bracket shown with the sign. There were no objections to the sign or brackets. The commissioners decided approval could be given for the sign, bracket and awning paint. He was asked to present a new proposal with samples for the façade panel.

A MOTION by Shirley Owens and a **SECOND** from Chris Wright to approve the application for hammered copper paint on the awning and a 2’ by 4’ hanging sign as presented in the application. Sign bracket style to be a wheat or grain likeness chosen from page submitted with application in size to match bracket in sign depiction.

Shirley Owens – aye. Christopher Wright – aye. Andy Baus - aye. **Motion carried.**

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A MOTION by Shirley Owens and a **SECOND** from Andy Baus to approve the January 9, 2019 minutes. Shirley Owens – aye. Christopher Wright – aye. Andy Baus - aye. **Motion carried.**

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OTHER BUSINESS:

- **Review budget numbers for next fiscal year.**

Commissioner Wright said he wanted to recommend raising Lynn’s pay if they could do that. Chairman Ingram said she agreed. Trustee liaison Stewart said he didn’t know if they could since it was part of a pay scale. Commissioner Wright said it was one of their budget line items so he didn’t see why not. Trustee Stewart said he would check on it. There were no other discussions about budget changes from the prior year numbers.

- **Pedestrian Safety Action Plan from Director Bodine.**

Chairman Ingram referred to the plan pages sent to everyone via email and asked if anyone had any comments. Commissioner Owens said it looked like downtown cross walk improvements. Commissioner Wright indicated he had no objections and thanked the Director for referring it to the Commission.

- **Vinyl Gazebo in Village Mini Park**

Commissioner Wright reported he had several conversations with the village code office about the gazebo placed by the village for the holidays. He said he learned it was temporary so he asked for the date it would be removed but did not get a date yet. He said it was a concern since others in the Historic District may see it want one only to be told it was not permitted.

- **Projects without approval**

The commissioners talked about not receiving an application for window replacements on 142 Main Street or the new porch on the Oliver House. They discussed their recourse in such situations and when to exercise that option. Commissioner Wright pointed out some repairs are in-kind so no approval was necessary. He said the code officer, Bruce Lyon , makes the decision about which property owner needs to get approval from the commission based on what work was proposed.

- **Educating Commissioners**

Trustee Stewart said he thought a professional such as a SHPO representative should come to Penn Yan to provide a refresher on Historic Preservation Commission guidelines and procedures. He said there had been questions about why approval for paint color was still being required after a previous meeting when SHPO rep, Julian Adams, expressly stated paint approval should be waived since colors could not be established as having historic appropriateness. Trustee Stewart said the Planning & Development Committee would be a good platform for a workshop such as that.

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A **MOTION** by Chris Wright and a **SECOND** from Shirley Owens to adjourn the meeting at 7:06PM.
Shirley Owens – aye. Christopher Wright – aye. Andy Baus - aye. **Motion carried.**
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Submitted by Secretary:

Lynn Duryea