

**Village of Penn Yan Historic Preservation Commission
Meeting Minutes April 13, 2021**

**111 Elm Street MUB ROOM
5:30 pm**

Present: Maggie Kessler-Chair, Shirley Owens, Tom Barden, Rich Stewart-VB Liaison, Jamie Kincaid-Code, Lynn Duryea-Secy.

Absent: Marcia Kneeland, Fran Dumas, Melissa Parsons

Public Present: Jared Stoltzfus, Mark Moon

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FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS: CHOOSE A CHAIR PERSON.

Maggie Kessler agreed to chair the meeting and the future meetings as well.

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A **MOTION** by Tom Barden and a **SECOND** from Shirley Owens to approve the February 9, 2021minutes.
Shirley Owens-aye. Tom Barden-aye. Maggie Kessler-aye.

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FIRST ITEM: Application from Andrew Baus for a new shed at 342 Main Street.

Andy Baus was present and explained he wanted to place a 10’X20’ wooden shed on a 12’X22’ gravel pad in his backyard. He said it would be in a color called Buckskin with a green metal roof and 2 windows. Commissioner Barden indicated he did not think the commission should need to approve an accessory structure that was not permanent and was not part of the house. Andy mentioned when he was a member of the Historic Preservation Commission, he understood temporary structures did not need commission approval. Jamie said if it was not part of the primary structure and not permanent the shed should only go through the code office and permitting.

A **MOTION** by Tom Barden and a **SECOND** from Shirley Owens to waive the application requirement.
Shirley Owens-aye. Tom Barden-aye. Maggie Kessler-aye. Motion carried.

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NEXT ITEM: Application from Amity Coffee LLC for floor tile lettering and a hanging sign at 3 Main St.

Jared Stoltzfus was present and pointed to the photo of the proposed tile with lettering that he had provided with the application. Chairperson Kessler pointed out there could be a problem imbedding lettering in the floor tile when a new business uses the space one day. She said they already had their hanging business sign. She also pointed out the lettering they chose was not historically appropriate according to a font page she presented. Jared stated he would use the historically appropriate Americana or Kareena font style for the lettering and asked to have a copy of the font style page to give to the person doing his lettering. The chair asked if his plan was to remove more concrete so the entry would be lower. Jared said he would not be removing any more concrete since it was part of the structural element of the building. Chairperson Kessler asked Jared to explain the logo on the hanging sign and noted the font on the sign was not historic. Jared explained the logo was depicting the universal sign of friendship. He said he now knows the font wasn’t historic so he would change it to match one on the font style page. He said he would bring the font sheet to his sign person and choose one that would fit. Commissioner Barden said he had no problems with the sign.

A **MOTION** by Shirley Owens and a **SECOND** from Tom Barden to approve the application for floor tile installation with lettering size as depicted in mockup and to appear as shown in photo attached to application to read “*BETTER WITH COFFEE*”. Lettering font to be changed to a style from the list supplied by the Historic Preservation Commission. Hanging sign to be 40” X 40” with a 66” wide hanging bracket as depicted in color photo supplied by applicant. Lettering font to be changed to one selected from aforementioned font list.
Shirley Owens-aye. Tom Barden-aye. Maggie Kessler-aye. Motion carried.

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NEXT ITEM: Application from Mark Moon for new signage at 162 Main Street.

Mark Moon was present and said he was hoping for an impromptu review since he just submitted the application yesterday. The commissioners agreed to do the review. Jamie explained there was just a new

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business sign panel going in and that the sign posts were staying. Mark stated they would clean up the posts. He also stated the Prosser House panel at the top would be permanent but the panel below it would change with future occupants. Chairman Kessler and Commissioner Barden said they had no problems with the sign.

A **MOTION** by Tom Barden and a **SECOND** from Shirley Owens to approve the application as presented. **Shirley Owens-aye. Tom Barden-aye. Maggie Kessler-aye. Motion carried.**

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OTHER BUSINESS:

Discussions per Maggie:

✓ Who we are as HPC. Our objectives

Chairperson Kessler said after sitting in on the last meeting she got the impression the guideline needed to be updated. In her opinion she thought they should find a way for the guidelines to be uniform but flexible for each situation. Commissioner Barden said it was very important to maintain historic character without causing undue financial hardship for the owner since they may then be forced to neglect the property.

✓ Art Applications I am the liaison, there are several things that HPC needs to know and discuss.

Chairperson Kessler announced she was the liaison for the Community Art Committee (CAC). Trustee Stewart explained that the village decided to rethink who should be responsible for reviewing and approving public art. The Historic Preservation Commission was saddled with that job in the past but shouldn't have been since the commission members were not art professionals. He said the permanent committee, CAC, was recently established with various community members, some with art background, who were better able to judge public art. They had drafted an application and would do the initial review. After that, the art proposal would also be reviewed by the commissioners if it was in the Historic District. Commissioner Barden asked how they would keep art uniform over the whole Historic District so they wouldn't set a precedent. Trustee Stewart added the CAC application process would address who owns the finished art product, who would maintain it, where is was allowed, what the content should be and other details. Tom recommended there be a limit so the village doesn't become overwhelmed with public art.

✓ Updating Guidelines

Chairperson Kessler reiterated she thought the guidelines were old and should be reviewed. Commissioner Barden asked what guidelines she was referring to. He said he had an application checklist reference list and the Inheritance of Time text. The commissioners agreed the text had representations of historic structural features but not guidelines to apply to application review. There was talk of organizing a separate meeting outside of the monthly meetings to talk about updating the guidelines. The chair agreed to email everyone so they could set a time for those meetings. Lynn reminded the members that any meeting they arranged with 3 or more commissioners would be a legal public meeting. She asked to be notified of the time, date and place so she could post a public notice.

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A **MOTION** by Tom Barden and a **SECOND** from Shirley Owens to adjourn the meeting at 7:05pm. **Shirley Owens-aye. Tom Barden-aye. Maggie Kessler-aye. Motion carried.**

Submitted by Secretary:

Lynn Duryea