

MINUTES
BELOIT LANDMARKS COMMISSION
Meeting of April 20, 2010

A Meeting of the Beloit Landmarks Commission was held on Tuesday, April 20, 2010 in the City Hall Forum.

Present: Marjorie Fizzell, Rick McGrath, Sandra Williams, Lynette Johnson, Jennifer Knezel
Absent: Daniel Shea, John Dummer, Charles Haynes

1. Roll Call
Commissioner McGrath called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Community Planner Drew Pennington called the Roll.
2. Minutes of the January 19, 2010 Meeting
Minutes of the January 19, 2010 meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Fizzell. The motion carried (5-0).
3. Public Comments
None
4. Michael Cain, on behalf of Beloit College – Certificate of Appropriateness
COA-2010-08 Review and consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness to demolish a detached garage for the property located at 905 Church Street.

Mr. Pennington read the staff report.

Commissioner McGrath asked Mr. Pennington if the applicant intends to build a replacement garage. Mr. Pennington stated that the Landmarks Commission would review all proposed structures and that there is not a lot of space for a replacement garage. Commissioner Fizzell stated that the removal of the garage will improve the appearance of the property. Commissioner Johnson expressed her agreement with this statement.

Following this discussion, Commissioner Fizzell made a motion to approve the requested COA, subject to the conditions recommended by staff. Commissioner Knezel seconded the motion. The motion carried (5-0).

5. Anne Meronk – Certificate of Appropriateness
COA-2010-09 Review and consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness to tuckpoint the house and to demolish a detached garage for the property located at 816 Harrison Avenue.

Mr. Pennington read the staff report.

Commissioner McGrath asked Mr. Pennington if the applicant intends to build a replacement garage. Mr. Pennington stated that the applicant has not mentioned a replacement garage.

Following this discussion, Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the requested COA, subject to the conditions recommended by staff. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried (5-0).

6. Brenda Atlas – Certificate of Appropriateness

COA-2010-11 Review and consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness to install vinyl siding on the house & garage, to replace a roof vent, to replace the gutters, to repair/install fascia & soffit, to replace the garage door, and to replace the hand rails for the property located at 624 Park Avenue.

Mr. Pennington read the staff report.

Commissioner McGrath stated that the original door should be retained and questioned the need for replacement. Mr. Pennington reminded the Commission that they can add, delete, and change the recommended conditions of approval. Commissioner Johnson stated that the sidelights should be retained.

Following this discussion, Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve a COA to complete all of the proposed projects except the replacement of the front door & sidelights, subject to seven of the eight conditions recommended by staff. A condition dealing with the replacement door was excluded. Commissioner Fizzell seconded the motion. The motion carried (5-0).

7. Sudharani Shockley – Certificate of Appropriateness

COA-2010-12 Review and consideration of a Certificate of Appropriateness to reconstruct a brick porch wall, to tuckpoint the house, and to replace the front steps for the property located at 816 Wisconsin Avenue.

Mr. Pennington read the staff report.

Lamont Shockley approached the lectern and identified himself as the property owner. Mr. Shockley stated that various mortar colors have been used on the house, and that the mortar color in the lower right corner of the porch matches the color he used. Commissioner Williams asked Mr. Shockley why the bricks are white, and Mr. Shockley stated that he has taped the bricks using white tape. Commissioner McGrath shared his concerns regarding the workmanship including the joints and the strength of the mortar. Commissioner McGrath stated that the applicant should ask his contractor for a refund due to the poor quality of the work. Mr. Shockley stated that the entire porch needs to be reconstructed to resolve structural issues. Commissioner Johnson stated that she was shocked by the current appearance of the porch. Commissioner McGrath provided the applicant with various documents dealing with tax credit opportunities and masonry instructions. Commissioner McGrath stated that the completed work is not satisfactory.

Following this discussion, Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the requested COA, subject to the conditions recommended by staff. Commissioner Fizzell seconded the motion. The motion carried (5-0).

8. Report on Staff-Approved Certificates of Appropriateness & Activities Since Last Meeting
Mr. Pennington announced that he recently issued Certificates of Appropriateness for the following projects:

Roof Replacement

961 Bluff Street (Garage)

746 Park Avenue

643 Park Avenue

817 Bluff Street

Other Projects

641 Church Street - Removal of asphalt siding and the restoration of the original siding.

643 Park Avenue – Removal of hollow oak tree.

9. Committee Reports
 - A. Awards & Plaque Committee: Nothing to report.
 - B. Program & Publicity Committee: Commissioner McGrath shared the details of an upcoming expo in Janesville and his plans for Heritage Days 2010.
 - C. Education Committee: Nothing to report.
 - D. Outreach Committee: Commissioner Fizzell mentioned that the Beloit Daily News may run an article on the historic district walking tours website.
10. Adjournment
At 8:16 PM, Commissioner Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Commissioner Fizzell seconded the motion. The motion carried (5-0).

Drew Pennington, Community Planner