

Chad Crumrine, vice chair, called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. on Thursday, May 23, 2019, in the Conference Room, Fourth Floor, City Hall. A roster of the members of the commission and the technical posts they fill are on file and available upon request. Also present were commission members L. Allen, M. Chilton, R. Powell, S. Silas, and M. Wertman. S. Bockmiller, Development Planner/Zoning Administrator; and D. Calhoun, Secretary, were present on behalf of the Planning and Code Administration Department.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

April 11, 2019 and May 9, 2019:

MOTION: (Silas/Powell) Move to approve.
DISCUSSION: None.
ACTION: APPROVED (Unanimous)

CONSENT AGENDA

None.

DESIGN REVIEW

158 South Prospect Street – Stephen B. Sagi – Rebuild Rear Porches, Case No. HDC 2019-16.

Steve Sagi, 921 Washington Avenue, Hagerstown, Maryland, owner of the property, was present.

Staff Report: This district is not rated; however, this building would be a B resource if the buildings in the Prospect Street Local Historic District had been rated. The applicant proposes to rebuild the deteriorated three-story fire escape and rear porch system using pressure-treated lumber. Several sections of railings have fallen off and much of the porch contains rotted or broken boards. The current porch/fire escape system is a mix of different styles and materials. This project will address code issues and create a uniform appearance. All work is to the rear of the building and is mostly unseen from South Prospect Street. Staff recommended that the bottoms of the pickets be sawn off so they do not extend beyond the bottom of the bottom rail and that a horizontal member be added to mask the bottom of the pickets to give the appearance of a traditional handrail if pickets are exposed away from the house. All existing lattice should be removed as part of this project. All wood must be painted or stained once the wood has seasoned.

Applicant/Commission Discussion: Mr. Sagi indicated that he would complete the project per any recommendations the commission may make. The building permit has been applied for, in

particular for emergency repairs to the first floor porch. Per the code a railing may not be required on the basement level. There were no additional comments by the commission.

MOTION: (Wertman/Powell) Mr. Chairman, I have inspected the project plans and the property in question, and if constructed in accordance with these plans, given that the bottoms of the pickets need to be even with the horizontal board that goes across, then the project will be compatible with the character of the districts because it matches the look of the district, and will be generally in harmony with the Architectural Design Guidelines for the Residential Preservation Design District and the character of the adjoining properties. Therefore, I move the HDC grant a Certificate of Appropriateness to the applicant for Case No. HDC 2019-16.

DISCUSSION: None.

ACTION: APPROVED (Unanimous)

Mr. Sagi informed the commission that he getting ready to do the roof at the Hamilton Boulevard property which the HDC approved a few months ago. It should be complete in the next week or two.

WORKSHOP

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Bockmiller noted that he will be absent from the next meeting, however, Kathleen Maher, Planning Director, will be handling the cases for him. He announced that renovations to the first floor façade of the Junior Fire Company on North Potomac Street will be coming before the commission at that meeting. The Maryland Historical Trust already approved the project for tax credits.

OLD BUSINESS

- The Fifth Annual Induction Ceremony for the Hagerstown Circle of Achievement was held on Saturday, May 18. The honorees were Ann Smith and Florence MacMichael.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Crumrine stated that he will be unable to attend the next meeting. Staff should ensure that Mr. Gehr is able to attend.

ADJOURN

It was moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn (4:18 p.m.).

6/13/2019
Approved


Debra C. Calhoun – Secretary