

Historic Board of Review
March 4, 2010

The meeting was called to order by Rob Young.
Roll call for the March 4, 2010 meeting was taken. Present were:

Rob Young
Doug Fleming
Greg Warner
Kim Kile
Steve McCleerey was absent
Joan Fitzwater, Historic Preservation Officer and Terri Sharrer, Secretary, were also present.

Greg Warner made a motion to approve the February 4th, 2010 minutes. Kim Kile seconded the motion.
Motion carried.

In new business, Frances and Donald Hull, of Hometown Comics, 14 A&B W. Main Street, appeared before the board to request a Certificate of Appropriateness for a sign. Ms. Hull said they felt they needed more exposure because the current sign is only visible by looking directly at the front of the building. The board was given pictures of the proposed sign. The sign is attached to a wrought iron fence in front of the stair well going down. There were questions about the placement of the sign and also fire code issues. Mr. Warner asked if this sign fell within the sign guidelines sizes. Ms. Fitzwater stated the total square footage of the signs on their building stay within the guidelines allowable total. A discussion about window signs in the historic district ensued. She also stated that the window signage is supposed to be 20 to 25% of the window and temporary but that the guidelines have never been enforced. Mr. Fleming stated that with the building signs and windows signs that it seemed like a lot of square footage. There was a discussion about whether two or three signs are allowed in the historic district. Ms. Fitzwater looked up in the ordinance and verified that three signs per building are allowed. Mr. Warner stated that when he drove by and looked at the sign, the corners were dented and asked what type of material the sign is made of. Mrs. Hull stated that during high winds, the sign had blown off but they had since changed the type of anchors that were used. Mr. Hull stated that the sign is made of corruoplastie and is made to withstand the elements. Mr. Warner made a motion to approve the sign. Mr. Fleming seconded the motion. Upon unanimous vote, motion was approved. Mrs. Hull then asked what the board would think about putting lights around the original sign to draw attention to it. They answered that as long as it did not move, blink, or flash and fit into the guidelines, that it would probably get approval but they would need to put in another application. She then asked about putting a generic superhero on top of the perpendicular sign. Mr. Hull described what the superhero would look like and the type of material it would be made of. A discussion then took place about two sided signs and whether both sides should be counted in the allowable square footage total since both signs cannot be seen at the same time. Mr. and Mrs. Hull told the board how they receive many calls from people who can't find where they are located and comments from customers who tell them they did not even know the store was there. Once again, Mr. Young stated that the sign would have to fit into the guidelines and submitted for approval.

In other business, Ms. Fitzwater stated that the prospectus to apply for the grant to update the design guidelines for the historic district is filled in and ready to submit but that the grant application itself still needs to be filled out.

There being no other business, Rob Young made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Ms. Kile seconded.

Respectfully submitted,
Terri Sharrer
Secretary