

**Minutes**  
**Historic District Commission**  
**Wednesday, February 22, 2012**  
**7:00pm**  
**Lower Hearing Room**  
*Adopted March 25, 2012*

**Members Present:** Harvey Steiner, Kenneth Sheytanian, Carolyn Famiglietti, Linda Sternberg

**Members Absent:** Robert Childs, John Hecker,

**Staff Present:** Christopher Hayward, Daphne Collins

**Public Present:** (See Sign-In Form)

Steiner chaired.

**1. Public Hearing – Certificate of Appropriateness - 133 Mt. Auburn Street – Business Identification Sign, MACM, LLC – owner; Falcon Graphics – applicant.**

Mehmet Sahin, of Falcon Graphics, informed that a 36”x107” single panel business identification sign was proposed. The sign will be supported with a square tubing system. The sign would read: “Roksana” (19”x114”) with an image (16”x 18”). The sign will fit in the space above the window in a matte finish. The background color will fade from light to dark across the sign. The right side panel will be painted in a single color to match the graphic sign’s background.

**Vote:** Sheytanian moved issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for a business sign as presented at 133 Mt. Auburn Street. Sternberg seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**2. Informational/Discussion – Consideration of enlarging the Mt. Auburn Historic District for the purpose of including 270 Mt. Auburn Street**

Evelyn Mazmanian, 270 Mt. Auburn Street, stated that she did not want to be part of the Historic District. In 2008 when she purchased the property the deed did not have any restrictions indentifying that her property is in the district.

Steiner informed his desire to include the property in the District.

Hayward reported that the Town Historic District Ordinance is clear that the district properties are those within the map boundary lines. The Town Attorney and Chris Skelly of MHC were consulted and confirm this. Based on the map boundary lines 270 Mt. Auburn is not in the district.

Steiner’s rationale for inclusion was the style of house mirrors the house across the street which is in the district and that it’s gateway location would set the image for the district.

Mazmanian felt her property was being singled out. She argued that including her property was arbitrary since it did not include Garfield Street which had houses whose architectural style was superior to her own.

Mazmanian also did not want to include her house in the district because the financial ramifications would be too onerous. She could not afford to replace the 60 windows to meet the HDC standards.

Sheytanian was not comfortable including the property in the District when it was not within the map boundaries.

Sternberg suggested that the HDC investigate the Town Council's rationale for exclusion to determine if it was intentional or a mistake.

Famiglietti thought the HD map was consistent – all properties in the HD were part of a block. She felt that if the property were to be selected it would not be consistent as it would be the only property on its block to be included.

Sternberg was concerned that the work required to include the property in the district was onerous and unproductive. Sternberg will investigate the Town Council minutes and talk to Victoria Carter and John Hawes.

**3. August Site Visit & January Minutes - Adopted.**

**4. Old Business**

- a. **Signage** – No update.
- b. **2012 HD Letter** – Staff will update the HD letter and distribute.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

