

Minutes
Historic District Commission
Thursday, January 27, 2015, 7:00 p.m.
Philip Pane Lower Hearing Room

Members Present: Carolyn Famiglietti, Harvey Steiner, Kenneth Sheytanian, John Hecker

Members Absent: Linda Sternberg

Staff Present: Christopher J. Hayward, Susan C. Jenness.

Steiner chaired.

(Adopted 2.24.16)

1) Public Hearing Certificate of Appropriateness - HDC 15-13 125 Mt. Auburn St., Chris Kavakian, Applicant, Gerald Mazzeo, Owner. Request for installation of sign as proposed below.

- Request for installation of a 4' x 6' aluminum sign above the existing window, with a white background and black lettering.
- Installation of gooseneck lights above the sign as requested above.

Mr. Chris Kavakian, Applicant, appeared to present the project plans as described above in Application HDC 15-3 for the installation of a sign at 125 Mt. Auburn St. Kavakian reviewed the project plans with the HDC and answered any questions.

Commission Discussion:

Hecker said his opinion of the project was that it was very nice, simple and that it was making a strong statement.

Famiglietti said that the proposed plans were very clear and complete, and that she appreciated the effort he made putting it all together.

A discussion was held focusing on the lights which the HDC was very pleased with.

Motion: Hecker made a motion to approve the proposed project including the lighting as well. Sheytanian seconded the motion stated by Hecker.

Vote: A unanimous vote was reached approving the motion made by Hecker.

The HDC thanked the applicant for being well prepared for the public hearing and wished him luck in the future with his business.

The Applicant thanked members of the HDC and the Conservation Office for being helpful and supportive in this experience.

Agent Hayward directed the applicant to report to the Zoning Department if he had not already done so to confirm that the project was in complete compliance with Zoning as it pertains to the hanging of commercial signs.

2) Minutes November 19, 2015

Motion: Famiglietti made a motion to adopt the minutes of the November 19, 2015 meeting with a minor modification. Hecker seconded the motion.

Vote: There was a unanimous vote by the commission to adopt the minutes of the November meeting with minor modification.

3) Old Business

a. Update on CA 14-13 - 106 Mt Auburn St violation.

Agent Hayward briefed the HDC about a telephone call he received from Carissa Demore of Historic New England on December 11, 2015. The call alerted him of some recent work done to the façade of the building at 106 Mt. Auburn St, repairing the canopy of the house known as the Miles Pratt House. Demore stated that the work appeared not to be in conformance with the conditions set forth by the HDC in the Certificate of Appropriateness issued by the Conservation Office after the October 29, 2014 public hearing.

The violations discussed between Demore and the Agent, were observed to include material violations as well as extreme design changes that did not exist in the previous canopy located on the façade of the building, prior to the repair work having taken place.

When the Agent contacted Dino Tangredi, the Applicant for the Certificate of Appropriateness, and the owner of the home, Tangredi stated he was not aware of the inconsistencies in the outcome of the project, and that he had not been involved in supervising the project.

When informed by the Agent that the project would need to be corrected in order to be compliant with the Certificate of Appropriateness issued by the HDC in October of 2014, Tangredi agreed to correct the oversights, and made a request to proceed with that work in the warmer weather.

Commission Discussion:

Hecker advised the Agent that the entire balcony will need to be replaced in this case.

HDC members concurred that there has been other work done in the District that has not been properly authorized in recent times.

4) New Business

Steiner addressed members of the HDC that he thinks it is time to send out a letter to remind the residents that they are residing in the Historic District. He wants the letter to state that the HDC must sign off on work for it to be properly authorized, and when the project has been completed as well. He also wants the letter to emphasize that applicants must notify the Conservation Agent 48 hours prior to the commencement of work on any project in the district.

Steiner has created signage to demarcate the boundaries of the Historic District. Hecker urged him to create signs for both sides of the street. They discussed that the money may be obtainable from the DPW sign budget.

Meeting adjourned.