

Landmark Commission

June 16, 2021

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order:

Chairman Tim Berkey called the meeting to order at 5:00pm. The following members were present: Mike Meinzer, Alan Griffiths, Ryan Nagel, and Ryan Whaley. Joe Galea and Jon Lawrence were absent. Alec Ochs and Thomas Horsman represented the Community Development Department. Administrative Assistant Kristen Barone was also present.

Review of minutes from May 19, 2021:

Mr. Griffiths made a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Nagel seconded. All members were in favor of the motion.

Applications:

129 W. Market Street- Certificate of Appropriateness for Signage at J Bistro

Mr. Ochs stated that J Bistro is in the Laurence Building, which is a contributing structure in the Downtown Sandusky Commercial Historic District. He stated that staff would normally administratively approve this sign, but since it is an internally illuminated sign, that is why it is before the committee. While the Sandusky Preservation Design Guidelines state that internally illuminated signs are inappropriate for the downtown area, staff believe that this sign has historic qualities and charm of the historic downtown. Staff recommends the granting of the Certificate of Appropriateness. Ryan Brady with Brady signs stated this restaurant is not noticeable from the corner of Columbus Avenue and Market Street, so the owners want to have a sign placed as proposed, but also have it internally illuminated to be able to see in the evening as well. Mr. Whaley made a motion to approve the application and Mr. Meinzer seconded. All voting members were in favor. Dr. Berkey stated that in the future it would be helpful to talk with Brady Signs regarding the language in the ordinance regarding signage, as that has been a topic of discussion as something the Landmark Commission has been wanting to update.

Changes to COA application and process:

Dr. Berkey stated that he has viewed applications from other cities and looked back at previous meeting minutes where concerns were addressed, to see how the City of Sandusky's application and process can be updated. He then provided a draft Certificate of Appropriateness Application to the other members to view and give feedback on. Mr. Griffiths stated that where it says that applications will not be considered until the applicant has restored the property back to its original condition, he said that he would like to be able to leave some wiggle room, to make sure that they are not asking people to take things off a building that was an effort to preserve a building. Mr. Griffiths suggested rephrasing that part to say applications may not be considered instead of saying will not be. Mr. Griffiths then asked on the punch list, what does relocation mean? Mr. Nagel stated that he has seen a couple of times that a building has been relocated, but it does not happen often as it is expensive. Mr. Nagel stated that under the supporting documentation section, along with material list and color choices, it would be nice to have physical samples depending on what it is as some times it is hard to tell what things look like on paper. Dr. Berkey asked if there could be a motion to accept the draft application with the changes discussed today. Mr. Griffiths then made that motion and Mr. Nagel seconded. All voting members were in favor of the motion.

Opportunities and challenges for Landmark Commission:

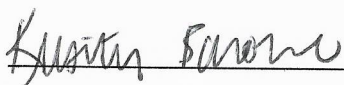
Dr. Berkey shared a list with the members on things discussed at past meetings in need of attention and asked for members to review the list and then discuss at future meetings.

Identification of proposed city landmarks:

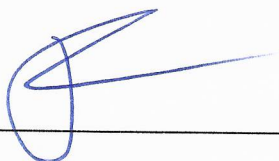
Dr. Berkey shared with the other members a list of potential city landmark/national registry applicants. He stated that it would have to be the will of the property owner to apply to the State Preservation Office or it could go to City Commission first and then sent to the State Preservation Office. Mr. Nagel said that it will help to have the City Commission recommendation when going to the State Preservation Office for approval. Dr. Berkey stated that he would not mind taking the lead in seeing if the property owners would be interested in applying if that was okay with the rest of the committee. Mr. Nagel made a motion to authorize the chairman to contact the property owners to see if there is interest in registering for the program. Mr. Griffiths seconded the motion. All voting members were in favor.

Meeting adjourned:

Mr. Griffiths made a motion to adjourn and the meeting ended at 5:53pm.

Approved by:A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kristen Barone", written over a horizontal line.

Kristen Barone, Clerk

A stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large loop and a long horizontal stroke, written over a horizontal line.

Ryan Whaley, Chairman