

Village of Bath

Historic Preservation Commission

Minutes

March 14, 2016

Present: Chet Wilcox, Terry Bilancio, Bob Jeffrey, Chad Faulkner, Becky Stranges, Brad Benson

Absent: Jeanne Glass, Village Board liaison

The meeting was opened at 6:04pm by Chair Becky Stranges.

Public Hearing: N/A

Minutes Approved/Amended: Minutes for our last meeting were not available.

Certificates of Appropriateness Applications:

- **COA for 33 Liberty St.** (Nationwide Insurance office) New signage above and on the store window: approved but with the following statement: *The size of the sign and its lettering is larger than our code allows. However we will grandfather the new sign in. We would appreciate the removal of the blue carpeting in front of your business as it detracts from the historic nature of downtown.*
- **COA for 49 Liberty St.** (new location for Central Steuben Chamber of Commerce and shared with Empire Access) Two painted signs on the window panes (2) of the business. Only one design available; its style was approved, but the size looked more than 20% of the pane. Becky to contact the applicant for more details. COA tabled.
- **COA for 209 Liberty St.** (Christine Kolo restaurant) Exterior: new entrance and accompanying vestibule, rear exhaust fan, moving two windows to other location all approved. Sign in front of restaurant approved but with the following statement: *The scale of the sign is fine, but we question the colonial style and the efficacy of the lettering. Fr. Brad Benson is offering his expertise in signage design to Christine to explore other possibilities.*
 - We reminded ourselves that we intend to give Christine Kolo some sort of award for her renovation and this should coincide with the opening of her restaurant.

Old Business:

- Update on reimbursement for grant – Becky reports that we’ve been told the check is in the mail-- hopefully arriving soon.
- Bob Jeffrey complained that the village’s web site is still, after years, woefully inadequate and outdated. We concluded that it would be best to present our concerns (repeatedly as necessary) at Village Board meetings.

New Business:

- Secretary for the HPC – Brad volunteered to be recording secretary until the summer.
- 2015 Annual Report of SHPO-Bob – circulated to commissioners; sent in to SHPO.
- Mailing to Property Owners-sort and organize returns – tabled to another meeting
- Evaluation/prep for open house at 209 Liberty St – tabled to a future meeting; anticipated opening July
- Standards for Exterior Renovations(part of technical assistance grant) – Becky has received this and believes it will be a valuable future resource. Current example would be the renovation planned for the Marlea Sherwood’s property.
- Upcoming project at County Office Building – The County plans to erect a new building on the empty corner next to the St. Mary’s Church rectory. The design will likely be vetted by SHPO and then presented to us for final approval.

- Christmas Open House Planning – Date set: Saturday, Dec. 17, 4-6pm. Several possible properties were discussed including: 120 Haverling, Carter McFall; E. Steuben, David Graham, 109 E. Steuben, Dan Stone, W. Washington, Joe/Elaine Dunning; W. Washington, Gabrielli's, Partridges, and others. More discussion at future meetings.
- St. Thomas' Episcopal Church plans to be part of the Sacred Sites' (New York Landmarks Conservancy) state-wide historic properties open houses May 21-22. This may bring some attention to this historic church. This may be the subject of Fr. Brad's *Courier* article that month.

Correspondence: None

Expenses/Bills: Balance: -\$795 (until reimbursed for CLG Grant)

Reports: None

Guests: None

Other:

- Order for article writing is: Becky Bob Sharon Brad Chad Chet Terry – Chad is up next; Becky will try to remind us of our dates.
- Be more diligent in watching your assigned properties

Adjournment: 7:04pm

Next Meeting: April 11, 2016, 6:00pm (Municipal Bldg)

Respectfully submitted: *J. Brad Benson*

Upcoming Meetings:

April 11
May 9
June 13

July 11-for COA reviews only
August 8-for COA reviews only