

# Village of Bath

## Historic Preservation Commission

### Minutes

May 9, 2016

Present: Becky Stranges, Terry Bilancio, Brad Benson, Chad Faulkner, Bob Jeffrey, Chet Wilcox and Jeanne Glass, Village Board Liaison

Becky Stranges, chair, brought the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

**Minutes:** Motion to approve by Brad/2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob; carried unanimously.

#### **Certificates of Appropriateness Applications:**

- *8 Buell St -new sign* – Action: Motion to deny by Brad/2<sup>nd</sup> by Chad; carried unanimously. Declined due to improper style, materials, size (probably not to code). Becky will explain that we suggest a cantilevered hanging sign on wrought iron frame would be acceptable. COA needs to be resubmitted.

#### **Old Business:**

- *Update on the Website* – Jeanne reported that web site improvements are “on the verge” of happening.
- *Update on annual postcard to remind property owners of their responsibility*; Becky decided that we would not send a postcard now, but will do an envelope mailing next February/March.
- *Monthly representation at Village Board meetings* – These happen on third Mondays of the month at 5:30pm. Jeanne suggested that we be there during at least the first hour. No one volunteered to cover the meeting May 16.
- *Houses for December 17 House Tour (4-6pm)*
  - *Probable locations with commissioner in parentheses: Presbyterian Church (Chad); Former Masonic Temple Apartment (Chad); E. Steuben St. David Graham?(??); 109 E. Steuben St. Christine Van Valkenburg (??); W. Washington, Joe/Elaine Dunning (Brad)*
- *Evaluation/prep for open house at 209 Liberty St* – This is likely for July at the earliest; we will present a cash award (and framed certificate) to Christine Kolo for her work; this to coincide with the open house and be featured in our weekly column in the Courier.

#### **New Business:**

- Becky announced that Mike Skelly would be coming on the Commission at the June meeting; there were no objections. Chet announced that Mike Wharton, a local contractor, will be attending the next meeting to see if he wants to join our ranks as well. If both men sign on, that will bring the Commission back up to full strength.
- Chet alerted the Commission to three amendments to the original COA for 209 Liberty Street; including a change in the side entrance and window, exhaust fan location and treatment, and railing change. Motion to approve these changes by Bob/2<sup>nd</sup> by Terry; carried unanimously. Chet will write up these changes and get them to Becky asap.
- **Standards for Exterior Renovations (part of technical assistance grant)-members report on their assigned section** – It was discovered that not all the commissioners received all the guidelines to review. Of those received, each person had comments/suggested changes. Becky will send us the email address for the coordinator with Brown Architects so that we can each make our suggestions directly to that person; copying Becky. This needs to happen soon. We are unclear as to what form the Guidelines will take (printed?) and how they will get to property owners. All agreed the guidelines will be timeless and very useful.

**Correspondence:** None

**Expenses/Bills:** Balance: \$157.70 until May 31, 2016. It was suggested that we pay ahead on some project (e.g. printing of tickets, etc. for the fall) now so that this money is not lost. Becky will pursue this.

**Other:**

- *Order for article writing is:* Becky Bob Sharon Brad Chad Chet Terry – Bob reported that he would not be able to make the deadline for the May 11 issue, so there will be a week without our column.
- *Be more diligent in watching your assigned properties.* We agreed that we all need to be far more vigilant in watching Liberty Street properties particularly as we are noticing many infringements on the Preservation Law as well as possible code infractions.
- *Brad suggested that we invite Ralph Senese to our June meeting* and ask him to educate all of us (including newest commissioners) on how he goes about doing code enforcement. We agreed that this would be enlightening.
- *Brad announced that he had been invited to meet with Mike Rowald* (owner Shannon Building) with Mayor von Hagn and others to discuss possibility for Mike to turn property behind the apartment building into an “Arcade” for use as a youth center. There was also concern that Rowald’s anticipated improvements to his apartment building would need substantial COA approvals. Becky reminded us that there are other properties involved in the Main Street grant that would need HPC approval before being vetted by SHPO.

**Adjournment:** 7:42pm.

Respectfully submitted: *J. Brad Benson*, recording secretary

**Next Meeting:** June 13, 2016, 6:00pm (Municipal Bldg)

**Upcoming Meetings:**

July 11-for COA  
reviews only

August 8-for COA  
reviews only