

**ALGONQUIN HISTORIC COMMISSION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 9, 2017
7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER - ESTABLISH QUORUM

Present: Chairman Jolitz and Members Himes, Lewis, Purn, Thompson, and Zange.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 12, 2017 AND
WORKSHOP MINUTES OF JULY 15, 2017**

Moved: Member Thompson; Seconded: Member Zange.

Voice Vote: All Ayes. Minutes Approved.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR CONSIDERATION OF A MAJOR IMPROVEMENT IN THE
OLD TOWN DISTRICT – Case No. PC-17-05, 321 JEFFERSON ST. TO
REBUILD THE REAR DECK AND STAIRS.**

VILLAGE STAFF PRESENTATION:

Ben Mason presented the case on behalf of the Village. Mr. Mason explained that Saul Llamas, property owner, has applied for a Certificate of Appropriateness for reconstructing the rear deck and stairwell on the property in question. The property is located on Jefferson Street, south of Washington Street. The property owner is proposing to remove the existing second floor deck and stairwell off the rear of the home, to be replaced by a new stairwell that will be closer to the north side wall adjacent to the St. John's Lutheran parking lot.

Village Staff believe that the new deck and stairwell will enhance the exterior appearance of the home, which has a new business tenant and has been undergoing small renovations over the past year to improve the property. Village Staff believe that the proposed deck and stairwell replacement is compatible with the home and consistent with the Preservation Code. Staff therefore recommends approval of the Certificate of Appropriateness with the following conditions;

- 1) The owner shall submit necessary construction drawings for the building permit.
- 2) The wood shall be stained or painted, and shall not be left untreated.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM PETITIONER:

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION:

Chairman Jolitz explained that, because the stairway will be located on the back of the building (rather than the front or side), Victorian styled balustrades with turned spindles would not be required, and that Staff's requirement that the lumber be treated is consistent with other projects that the Village has approved in the past under the Code .

Mr. Mason clarified that Petitioner intends to use a stain in a either a color or woodtone to treat the lumber, and Chairman Jolitz agreed that such a treated stairway would maintain its appearance and inure to the benefit of the property far better than untreated wood.

Mr. Mason explained that a two-story stairway and deck will be generally more visible than one that is lower to the ground, and Members Purn and Zange observed that the stairway would be visible from the St. John's church parking lot.

Member Lewis concurred that the Staff's requirements for finishing the wood would make the stairway with its deck / landing areas blend in aesthetically with similar structures in the neighborhood.

MOTION:

Motion by Member Lewis to recommend that the Building Commissioner issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for Case No. PC-17-05 to rebuild the rear deck and stairs at 321 Jefferson Street consistent with the Petitioner's submittal and the conditions listed in the August 9, 2017 memo from Village Staff. Seconded by Member Purn. Chairman Jolitz repeated the Motion and opened the floor for any further discussion or questions. Being none he called for a vote. A roll call vote was taken, All Ayes – Motion Approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Historic/Vintage Structure Identification Signs: Chairman Jolitz and Member Purn distributed and explained the vendor quote received and selected for the vintage signs being ordered. Mr. Mason suggested adding an item about the vintage signage program in the Village's fall newsletter and/or the Village's monthly e-newsletter. Mr. Mason took a photo of the prototype sign that the Commission has already obtained for that purpose, and Chairman Jolitz agreed to email Mr. Mason a paragraph describing the program for insertion in one or both of the foregoing newsletters.

Scout Troop visits to HVH in September & October: Chairman Jolitz reported on the discussions with Gerald Klein regarding the Commission's request for reservations for the

fall Scout Troop visits to Historic Village Hall on the dates of 09/23/2017 and 10/28/2017. Gerald advised the time slots of between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on the requested dates would work for scheduling of the building for this purpose and he will include the information in the Fall Recreation Booklet so that Troop Leaders can sign up their troop for a visit.

APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR PAYMENT:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Exhibits in Library and Village Hall Display Cases: Chairman Jolitz reported on an inquiry seeking permission to photograph the vintage cameras now on display in the Commission's display case in the Main Village Hall. Because those cameras are on loan from a local collector, Member Zange will coordinate with the owner regarding this request.

CORRESPONDENCE, COMMENTS, AND OTHER BUSINESS:

Chairman Jolitz reported that 8/21/2017 is the deadline for including items in the Village's fall newsletter. Information regarding the new offering for Vintage Structure Identification Signs will be forwarded to Ben in the next few days, who has advised he will have it included in the Fall Newsletter to promote the new production run of these popular signs, which have greatly enhanced the character of the Old Town district since they were first introduced by the Commission twenty years ago in 1997.

Member Purn reported on an offer to donate a trophy won in the 1960's reenactment of a historic Algonquin Hill Climb, and photographs of the trophy and winning car received from the donor. Member Purn also reported on other historic photograph donations (slides) which he has received and is reviewing for possible printing of some of the images.

The Commission received a letter with an Inquiry for information and a donation of a reprint of a vintage photograph ca 1909, of Walter Holtz with his wagon in Algonquin received from Cheryl Schroder of Cecil, Wisconsin, who is researching Mr. Holtz's (her grandfather's) life and works.

ADJOURNMENT:

Member Purn moved, and Member Zange seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. Voice Vote: All Ayes. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.


Secretary

9/13/2017
Date Approved